

Sin Is Always Wrong

Introduction

1. As Christians we are to live in way that rejects the way of the world in relation to unrighteous and ungodly behavior.
2. Another way of the world we are to reject is the tendency to want to rationalize our sin, to play down its importance and excuse ourselves from all responsibility.
3. But as Christians we must remember that sin is always wrong, despite the temptation, in certain situations, to make excuses for sin behavior. It is important to remember that...
 - a. Sin is a transgression of God's law - 1 John 3:4
 - b. Sin results in separation from God - Isa.59:2
 - c. We are saved to no longer live in sin - Romans 6:1-2
4. If we accept these truths then there are no exceptions for sin, it is never right to sin.
5. This morning I want to demonstrate from the Bible that sin is always wrong no matter the circumstance.

Main Body

I. Sin is Wrong, Even if is Legal

- A. Governments are established by God and we are to respect and abide the laws of the land - Romans 13:1
 1. But the fact that an action or type of behavior is legal does not make it right, or a sin not a sin.
 2. It is easy to see why someone who is determined to justify sinful behavior might hide behind the law of the land and use this passage as supporting that view.
 3. But ultimately, Jesus is king, and His law rules over all laws - Matthew 28:19-20
- B. There are many practices and attitudes that are legal but God judges and condemns as sinful - such same sex marriages, homosexuality, gambling, social drinking, abortion etc.
 1. According to God's law king Herod unlawfully was married to his brother's wife - Mark 6:17-18.
 2. Homosexuality is lawful in the eyes of the government but sinful in the eyes of God - 1 Corinthians 6:9
 3. When it comes to obeying the law of the land and that of God, there is no choice - Acts 5:29

II. Sin is Wrong, Even if it is Practiced by the Majority

- A. Many believe that just by doing following in the majority is a justification for sin.
 1. We live in a world where majority rules - determines our governments, our laws, even family decisions.
 2. The concept of being guided by the majority has great appeal and benefits, generally speaking, and with regards to earthly affairs.
 3. But the fact that something is believed or done by the majority does not make it right, or excuse sin.
- B. We are war against following the majority for the sake of being the majority.
 1. We are not to follow the crowd to sin - Exodus 23:2
 2. The Christians is not to enter the path wickedness for it leads to destruction - Prov.4:14-15; Matt.7:13-14
 3. If we are sincerely seeking to do what is right then it is not a question of being in the majority or the minority, but a question of scriptural fidelity - 2 Tim.2:22; 1 Cor.7:19

III. Sin is Wrong, Even it is for a Good Cause

- A. Some say that as long as what I doing is for good cause or is expedient thing to do, God will accept it.
 1. This is another way of saying this is: the end justifies the means
 2. Or I might not be doing what the God says I should do or doing what He forbids, but in this instance its ok.
 3. By that reasoning, I can tell a white lie protect the one I love, or steal to feed my starving children; we can appoint to the eldership a man that meets most but not all qualifications; to set up of missionary societies; supporting Bible colleges through church funds.

B. But doing something for a good cause is no justification for disobedience; it is still a sin.

1. Uzzah was struck down for his disobedience, for stopping the ark falling - 2 Samuel 6:6-7
2. Saul thought it was expedient to offer unauthorized sacrifice; lost the throne - 1 Samuel 13:8-13
3. Thinking we can do evil (sin) to achieve good (God's approval) is roundly condemned - Romans 3:8

IV. Sin is Wrong, Even if it feels Right

A. Typical attitude we hear is 'I don't see anything wrong with that' or 'if it feels right, it can't be wrong'

1. As mentioned earlier, King Saul and Uzzah acted in ways that felt right, but were sinful!
2. Paul had persecuted the church both without compunction and with complete sincerity - Acts 23:1; 26:9

B. Simply because a person commits an act in sincerity, and it doesn't bother his conscience, does not guarantee that it isn't a sin in God's eyes.

1. Our feelings and the conscience have important role in our Christian lives.
2. However the conscience can be trained or educated to accept wrongdoing.
3. The only reliable source of truth is to be found in following God's revealed truth - Jer.17:9; Prov.14:12; Heb.5:12

V. Sin is Wrong, Even if Someone Caused You to Sin

A. The tendency of man to try to justify sin behavior can be traced back to the Garden of Eden - Genesis 3:12-13

1. Both Adam and Eve attempted to shift the blame for their sin - 'woman you gave me'; 'serpent'
2. Though Eve gave the fruit to Adam, he bore individual responsibility for his sin, just as Eve for being deceived by the Satan.
3. Others include Aaron and Saul who claimed they were (peer) pressured into their actions - Ex.32:21-24; 1 Sam.15:20-21.

B. Many will try to shift responsibility or minimize their sin by claiming they were forced by some circumstance or person.

1. It might be excusing their sin of anger on being provoked; their feelings of lust on the manner and dress of the opposite sex; or claiming to be drawn by others into gossiping; feeling of being pressured by others into sin, such lying, use of drugs etc.

C. Sin is wrong regardless of external circumstances. We are personal responsibility for our actions even if others cause or tempt us.

1. One is lead to sin by one's own desire - James 1:13-15
2. Each will give account of him or herself - Romans 14:12
3. God promises us a way of any and every temptation, regardless - 1 Corinthians 10:13

Conclusion

1. In this world of prevailing sin and wickedness, many try to minimize and excuse the sin in their lives.
2. We must never forget our calling to live holy and righteous lives, and in that respect, sin never justified.
3. Let us not attempt to explain away our sin but to admit, repent and come to God for forgiveness through the blood of Christ with blessed assurance.