

**BOOK OF 1 JOHN**  
Lesson #8 -Sin and the Child of God  
Scripture Reading: 1 John 3:4-9

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Introduction:

1. Since we purify ourselves (3:3), we should understand the nature of sin.
2. Understanding the nature of sin will keep us far from it.

**I. WHAT SIN IS**

A. WHAT SIN IS NOT

1. It is not a violation of human law. (i.e. the law will permit actions that God forbids)
2. It is not merely wronging one another. (we can forgive and make up)

B. WHAT SIN IS

1. Sin is “Missing the mark”
2. Two types of sin:
  - a. Sin of commission -i.e. murder, adultery, theft, lying, etc
  - b. Sin of omission -i.e. Failure to do good -Ja 4:17
3. Sin will always have adverse affects on our relationships with God, others, and ourselves.

**II. WHERE SIN BEGINS**

A. THE DEVIL

1. The devil has sinned since the beginning -1Jn 3:8
2. He is a liar from the beginning -Jn 8:44

B. THOSE WHO LIVE IN SIN ARE OF THE DEVIL

1. The people desired to do the deeds of the devil -Jn 8:44a
2. Remember that God is light, His people walk in the light. To walk in darkness is to be of the devil.

**III. WHERE SIN ENDS**

A. DEFEATED AT THE COMING OF CHRIST

1. He came to take away our sins -1Jn 3:5
2. He came to destroy the works of the devil -1Jn 3:8
3. He is the “Lamb that takes away the sins of the world” -Jn 1:29

B. DEFEATED AT THE PRICE HE PAID

1. His death upon the cross -1Co 15:3
2. The blood that He shed -Ac 20:28

C. DEFEATED AT OUR STEADFAST REPENTANCE

1. When we abide in Him, we do not sin
  - a. This is not sinless perfection -1Jn 1:8, 10
  - b. This is that sin is not a way of life
  - c. We are striving to walk like Jesus -1Jn 2:6
2. His seed remains in him, he does not sin
  - a. His seed is the word -Cf. Ja 1:18
  - b. Words of David -Ps 119:105

Conclusion:

1. The Gnostics believed if you were born of God, you need not worry about sin.
2. John teaches we should always be concerned about sin and our attitude toward it.
3. When we are concerned about sin, we will avoid it and remain faithful to our Lord.