



tude about sin, we will repent. We will beg God for forgiveness, because we know that it is an affront to His holiness and makes a mockery of the death of His Son. If we repent now, we can enjoy that fellowship we had with God when we first came to Him through Christ. We

will have returned to our first love and He promises to cleanse and forgive us (cf. 1 John 1:8-9). The Spirit taught us to **“ABHOR evil, and hold fast to what is good”** and that the law of God was given to expose sin as exceedingly sinful (Rom 12:9; cf. 7:13). The only way to abhor what is evil is to know what it truly is, and we must return to the Word of God to see it. Would you not do so now? Sin *is* death, sin took our Savior’s life, it will make you miserable here and now, it separates you from God, and allies you with the devil (cf. Rom 6:23; Psalm. 32; Is. 59:1-2; Col. 1:21-22; John 8:44). Brethren, we must learn to hate sin, and to become more sensitive to it that we may root it out of our lives lest it “find us out”, and we be lost with the rest of the world.



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Faithful Sayings Issue 13.7 February 13, 2011

Welcome Visitors

We are so glad that you joined us today.
Please come again.

● Let us know if you have any questions.

ISSUE

13.7

BULLETIN OF
THE OLSEN
PARK CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Faithful Sayings

February 13
2011

Services

Sunday: 9:30 AM
10:20 AM
6:00 PM

Wednesday: 7:00 PM

Elders:

Pat Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Kyle Pope

Deacons:

Dean Bowers
Eddie Cook
Bill Davis
Steve Dixon
Pat Goguen
Jack Langley
Neil Ledbetter
Brady McAlister
Walker McAnear
Lance Purcell
Rusty Scott

Evangelists:

Kyle Pope
Jason Garcia



Learning to Hate Sin

By Jason Garcia

“I love the relationship I have with Christ, but I don’t want to get *too* close.” Most Christians would not word their feelings for the Lord in precisely these terms, but nevertheless we may speak these words in our hearts. We want to be in Christ, but not “too far” in Christ. Perhaps we fear losing popularity with worldly friends, or believe we must retain some aspect of our worldly identity to be an individual. We certainly don’t want to be accused of becoming emotional about Jesus, so we play it safe—we stay “in the middle.” Guess what—we look like it too. We talk about what worldly people talk about, we dress like they dress, and we avoid spiritual discussions because they’re taboo, and could offend someone. We become excited about football, boyfriends, girlfriends, games, and movies; all the while blending with the crowd in

our behavior. Satan never warns of too much money, too many toys, or that you're spending too much time on entertainment. However, when it comes to spending too much time with God, then the red flags start to come up. Do we think this complacency will go unpunished? Do we think God will



Olsen Park church of Christ

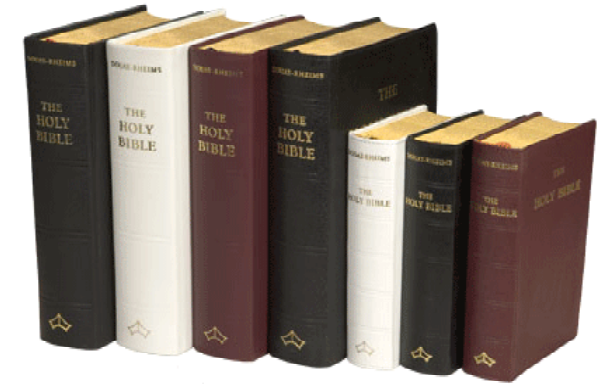
overlook the fact that we have forgotten to hate sin? No, rather He will count us among those who are guilty of **“having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof”** (2 Tim. 3:5 KJV). That is, we have religion in our profession of faith, but not in our hearts. How do we get back the zeal we had when we first turned to Christ? How can we learn to hate sin?

Do you remember what it was like to know you were finally free from sin?—That you were no longer enslaved to sin and its lusts? —The horror of sin was abundantly clear to us then. We knew that it was for our sin that the only Son of God had to die. We knew that our selfishness and pride made us wretched and hopeless—bound for hell. Weren't you excited the moment you knew that you were free from all that? Weren't you ready to teach the Gospel to anyone who'd listen? Certainly. Now Christ says to us what He said to the church at Ephesus, **“But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; REPENT, and DO THE WORKS YOU DID AT FIRST. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you re-**

pent” (Rev 2:3-4 ESV emphasis mine). Brothers and sisters, we must return to our first love. We must repent and put off the old person we were and strive to be like Christ again. Remember, the best Satan can offer us is counterfeit. He may cause us to remember the “fun” we had in our past life, but this is, of course, a lie.

All it takes is our neglect to rebuke those things, and we leave ourselves open to whatever lie he puts in front of us next. Before we know it, we are no longer doing God's will, but our own. We somehow have forgotten that all those things the devil offers are a perversion of the true joy, peace, and satisfaction one has in Christ.

Do you remember the works of the flesh? **“Sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not in-**



herit the kingdom of God” (Gal. 5:19-21). None of these can be toyed with, flirted with, or entertained! They are addictive, evil, lethal, and will destroy us! If we have been deceived into thinking otherwise, God assures us, **“your sin WILL FIND YOU OUT”** (Num. 32:23 emphasis mine). It is infinite danger, and can be shown no mercy! When we have the right atti-