

What Stands Between You and Your God?

- 1) Friend if so God doesn't hear your prayers.
- 2) You cannot worship God properly.
- 3) You cannot go to heaven in the condition that you are in.
- 4) Friend, you need to repent.

B) Lets not allow Satan to win in our lives.

- 1) *1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*
- 2) This is a great comfort to the Christian.
- 3) To know that I can be forgiven.
- 4) God wants me to be with Him.
 - a) *2 Peter 3:9 - The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*

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But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.
Isaiah 59:2

Thesis: to cause people to repent.

Introduction:

A) What Stands Between You and Your God?

- 1) With some its alcohol.
 - a) God says that alcohol is for the unwise.
 - b) *Proverbs 20:1 - Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.*
 - c) Do you suppose God wants us to be fools?
- 2) With some it may be adultery that stands between them and their God.
- 3) With some it may be their influence.
 - a) We are supposed to be a golden candlestick.
 - b) A valuable light to the world – Rev 1:20.

B) How do all of these sins stand between you and your God?

- 1) Sin Separates us from God.
- 2) Sin Keeps Our Prayers from Being Heard.
- 3) Sin Will Keep Us From Going to Heaven.

Discussion:

1) Sin Separates us from God.

Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

A) Sin is transgression of the law.

- 1) *1 John 3:4 - Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.*
- 2) It's missing the mark.
- 3) When we sin we disobey our Father.

B) Sin is against God's nature.

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- 1) **Titus 1:2** - *In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;*
- 2) When we sin we are in a way saying that we know better than God.
 - a) We put Him in second place.
- 3) Christ had to die so that we could be with our Father.
- 4) To give us forgiveness of sins.

II) **Sin Keeps Our Prayers From Being Heard.**

John 9:31 - *Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.*

A) James essentially said the same thing.

- 1) **James 5:16** - *Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*
- 2) **Proverbs 28:9** - *He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.*
- 3) **Proverbs 15:29** - *The LORD is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous.*

B) Prayer is a very important part of our lives.

- 1) Prayer is one of the acts of worship that we find in the N.T. church.
 - a) **Acts 2:42** - *And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.*
- 2) And if we can't pray to God then we cannot worship God correctly.
 - a) Sin is a serious matter.
 - b) On that does serious damage to our spiritual lives.

III) **Sin Will Keep Us From Going To Heaven.**

Revelation 21:27 - *And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh*

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abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

A) Those who have sin in their lives cannot enter into heaven.

- 1) We must receive forgiveness of our sins if we expect to go to heaven.
- 2) How do I receive forgiveness of my sins?
 - a) **Revelation 1:5** - *Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,*
 - b) **Acts 22:16** - *And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.*
 - c) **Acts 2:38** - *Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*
- 3) You must become a Christian.

- a) A follower of Christ.

B) Sin can keep Christians out of heaven too!

- 1) Remember Ananias and Sapphira.
 - a) **Acts 5**
 - b) They were punished for their sins.
- 2) Remember Judas.
 - a) **Matthew 27:5** - *And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself.*
 - b) Judas was consumed with worldly sorrow.
 - c) Paul told the Corinthians that "godly sorrow worketh repentance." (**2Cor 7:10**)
- 3) A Christian must repent of his or her sins if they are to be forgiven. (**1John 1:9**)
 - a) We must have a change of mind, heart, will, and direction.

Conclusion:

A) Is there some sin that stands between you and your God?