

Overcoming The Power of Sin

Mark 14:17-21

I. I want to begin by sharing some passages with you.

Isa. 59:1,2; Rom. 6:23; Eph. 2:1; Rom. 3:23

II. What do all of these have in common? They all speak the effect of sin.

III. Here is a second list of passages.

1Cor. 10:12,13; 2Peter 2:20,21; Gal. 5:4

IV. What do all of these have in common? They all speak of the possibility of falling from God's favor because of sin.

V. The point is; Sin is a powerful enemy. It is powerful enough to destroy the best of men and led even those most devoted to God down a path of eternal destruction.

VI. Today I want to share another example of how powerful sin can be. But at the same time I want us to consider how we can overcome this power. We find this in **Mark 14:17-21**.

VII. What we learn is this, *Although sin is a powerful enemy, we have the means to overcome it.*

VIII. In our lesson this morning I will be focusing on two points.

1. Recognizing the power of Sin.

2. Recognizing the power you have to overcome sin.

Trans: One of the greatest dangers to any person is not recognizing the danger of something. When we speak of spiritual matters the same is true. Too often people don't recognize how dangerous sin is because the don't recognize it's power.

1. Recognizing the power of Sin.

A. As we consider what Jesus had to say in Mark 14 concerning the one who was going to betray him, we really get a good idea of the power of sin.

1. We know it was one of his Apostles, **v.17,18**
2. We know this apostle was Judas, **Mark 14:10**

B. Sin had the power to blind Judas to the truth.

1. Judas was a fellow worker with the rest of the Apostles, **Acts 1:16,17**
2. He saw and was involved in the miraculous works of Jesus,
 - a. **Mark 4:35-41**, he was in the boat when the sea is calmed.
 - b. He was given the ability to cast out demons and heal people, **Mark 6:7, 12-13**
3. Yet he betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver, **Matt. 26:14-16**

C. Sin had the power to perpetuate and escalate the sin of Judas

1. Judas went from being a thief, **John 12:4-6**
2. To betraying Jesus, **Mark 14:43-45**
3. To killing himself, **Matt. 27:3-5**

Illust: Consider David, **Acts 13:22**, (from 1Sam. 13:14). Then consider, **2 Sam. 11:1-27**

- a. David has an affair
- b. Try's to cover his sin through lies and deception
- c. Has Uriah murdered.
- d. Involves others in his sin.

Appl: What would it take to get you to lie, steal, commit adultery, fornicate, gossip?

Consider Judas and the power sin had over him.. Judas was one of Jesus' Apostle. He witnessed the miracles Jesus did first hand. He was given the power to work miracles himself, yet he was willing to betray the Christ for 30 pieces of silver.

Trans: So in Mark 14:17-21 we witness the power of sin. But did Judas have to choose this path of sin? The answer is no. He had what was needed to overcome the power of sin. This is our next point.

2. Recognizing the power you have to overcome sin.

A. In **1Cor 10:13** we are told that God provides the means to escape the snare of sin.

1. But this is not some miraculous happening.
2. We are provided the means through our knowledge of God and our own actions,

2Peter 1:2,3

James 1:21-25

B. Let's consider the power Judas had to overcome the power of sin.

C. He should have recognized, you can't hide sin from God, **Mark 14:18,20**

1. One of you will betray me
2. It is one of the twelve
3. **1Sam. 16:7**
4. **2Cor. 5:10**

D. He should have recognized, the penalty completely overshadowed any temporary reward, **Mark 14:21**

1. Jesus was going to face His death as the Scriptures prophesied
2. But this didn't remove the responsibility for the one who betrayed Him.
3. **Mark 8:36**

E. He should have recognized where he was and was supposed to be, **Mark 14:18,20**

1. Jesus speak of the betrayer as one eating with Him and one who dips with Him.
2. Judas should have seen Jesus for who He was.
3. With that, his mind should have been on the greater things of God.
4. **Rom 12:2**
5. **Col. 3:1-10**

Illust: King David **2 Samuel 11:1**

Appl: In every action Judas took he had what was needed to overcome the power of sin.

There was nothing or no one forcing him down that path. It was his own heart and his own desires. that opened the door for Satan.

Yet all the while he had what was needed to overcome the power of sin.

Recognize you can't hide sin from God

Recognize the penalty completely overshadowed any temporary reward,

Recognize where he was and was supposed to be

Con: There is no question that sin is powerful. Think about it, sin led Judas to betray the Christ for 30 pieces of silver.

The Jewish leaders Although they had heard of and were aware of what Jesus was doing, had him put to death out of envy, **Matt. 27:17,18.**

Sin is so powerful it will cause us to trade our souls for momentary pleasures in the most trivial of things.

But it doesn't have to be this way, *Although sin is a powerful enemy, we have the means to overcome it.*