

THE MOST POWERFUL THING IN THE UNIVERSE

What Is It?

Allow me to pose to you a riddle:

Rich people need **IT**.
Poor people have **IT**.
IT is more wicked than the devil.
And if you eat **IT** you will die...

Give up? Well, here is one more hint; **IT** is even more powerful than God. "*What! Impossible!*" you declare with righteous indignation. "*What damnable heresy; **NOTHING** is more powerful than God!*" That's right my friend, and that is the answer to the riddle: **IT is NOTHING.**

Yet most people, who would piously declare that **NOTHING** is more powerful than God, unconsciously believe something is: **SIN.**

It is a spiritual tragedy that most professing Christians believe sin is indeed more powerful than God. For according to them, **'not even God can literally deliver a man from the power of sin daily in thought, word, and deed.'** My friend, if you do not believe that, through grace, one can live free from sin (*Romans 6:22*), then you do not truly believe that God is the most powerful thing in the universe. Although you may say with your mouth that *nothing* is more powerful than God, the implications of your theology declare otherwise. In fact, to say that God either *cannot* or *will not* deliver you from all sin is nothing less than a denial of the very Gospel of *Jesus Christ*.

If you believe you cannot live free from sin, then you must believe one of two things: either *God cannot* or *will not* deliver you from all sin. Since God is omnipotent, He surely can. Regarding His will, the scriptures declare that He has provided a salvation unto the uttermost which makes the believer free from both the guilt and power of sin (*Romans 6:14*). Thus, the problem is not one of divine ability or intention, but rather one of human rebellion and unbelief. Thus to attribute our sin to either God's inability or unwillingness is not only erroneous but blasphemous.

“But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid.” -Gal 2:17

Allow me to present a simple illustration to demonstrate the error of modern Christendom. Suppose a father and mother, who while enjoying a picnic together, are suddenly startled by the scream of their only son playing nearby in the woods. Upon investigation, they are horrified to discover that he has been bitten by a rattlesnake. In spite of every effort to save their son, he dies a most excruciating death. After the funeral, with tears still streaming down their faces, this couple returns home shocked to find their house is infested with rattlesnakes. The man assures his wife that he will remedy this awful situation and thus calls for a local herpetologist (*snake expert*). Upon arrival, clad in full body armor, the reptilian expert is willing and able to extract every rattlesnake from the home. The father then asks the herpetologist a bizarre question. *“Can you leave the snakes in our home and merely remove the venom?”* Somewhat puzzled, the herpetologist assures the man there is **NOTHING** he cannot do with rattlesnakes and proceeds per the request. Upon hearing the procedure is over, the man returns to the house with his wife. However, as she opens the door, to her horror, the wife is bitten on the leg by a snake. The jubilant father, raising his hands in rapturous joy breaks out into a jig as he tells his wife the ‘*Good News*.’ *“Rejoice my dear bride, for although the snakes can bite you, they can’t kill you. And furthermore my dear, this dreadful condition will serve to keep us humble. One day we will go to a place where there are no snakes but for now our lot is to be bitten many times over each day. Now, I still expect you to perform all your domestic duties and if anyone ever tells you that we do not have to live like this, know assuredly that they are dangerous and proud heretics. Although it is true that I could have removed all the snakes, in my great love and wisdom I thought this would be best for our family.”*

What kind of father and husband would this man be if he could have removed the snakes, but choose to merely remove the venom? Yet, this absurd folly is exactly what most ascribe to God in the atonement of Jesus Christ. **Jesus did not die to make holiness unnecessary but to make it possible. Moreover, the atonement did not mysteriously sanctify sin, extracting it of its deadly venom, so that it does not kill the ‘sinning saint.’ The purpose of the atonement was to sanctify man, not sin, so that he could by God’s grace live free from sin’s power.**

The lie that sin will not kill the ‘*believer*’ was first told in the garden by Satan himself, ‘*Ye shall not surely die.*’ But be not deceived my friend, “*If ye live after the flesh, ye shall die* (Romans 8:13).’ Many receive false assurance from misunderstood passages such as Romans 7, and I John 1:8. They mistakenly interpret these passages to teach that men cannot live free from sin. However, for the lover of Christ and truth there is a God honoring explanation. Romans seven is the defeated struggle of a man still under law, and I John 1:8 refers to one denying they have a sin nature. Beware my friend, for our interpretation of these scriptures, as well as others, will be determined ultimately according to ***our*** heart’s desire. For the man who desires a God honoring life and theology, the glorious and precious truth that makes free shall be revealed. But for those who love their sin more than Christ, God will send them a delusion (2 Thessalonians 2:11).

My friend, would you dare say that the almighty blood of Jesus Christ **CANNOT** cleanse you from all sin (1 John 1:7)? Do you deny the divine provision that in **EVERY** temptation there is provided

a way of escape (1 Corinthians 10:13)? Is **GOD** not able to keep us from falling into sin (Jude 1:24)? Would you deny that God has commanded you to cease from **ALL** sin immediately (John 8:11)? If you have answered **YES** to any of these questions, you are both unscriptural and deceived. Furthermore, your controversy is not with me but with God.

“For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. He therefore that despiseth despiseth not man, but God...” -1 Thessalonians 4:7, 8

The Gospel message is simple: *Man was separated from God by sin, thus Jesus has come to separate man from sin.* He therefore commands and enables all men to **‘Go and sin no more!’**

“Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God....” -1Jn 3:9-10

Now, I am not saying that it is impossible for a Christian to sin, but rather through God’s grace it is possible, even normal, for one not to sin. Furthermore, when I refer to sin, I am speaking of willful sin (1 John 3:4) which requires knowledge and volition.

Contrary to popular *Antinomian* theology, the word *commit* in this passage does not mean ‘*practice*’ but rather ‘*one single act.*’ (See Strong’s) It is a travesty that this *Good News* regarding freedom from sin makes most professing Christians gnash their teeth rather than rejoice. **The sad reality is not that God cannot or will not deliver men from all sin. Rather, it is the fact that selfish men do not WANT a Gospel that delivers them from sin’s power, only its consequences.**

“If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.” -1 John 2:29

The Biblical *Jesus* does far more than give men noble intentions and exegetical eloquence; He makes them free from sin! If you are content to be bound by sin then you have yet to meet the *Truth* that makes men free. What a shame that men, in the name of humility and orthodoxy, exalt the *fall of Adam* and its power to deprave over the *atonement of Jesus Christ* and its supernatural power to deliver. Perhaps the only thing more vile than sin itself is a professing Christian who pleads for sin, thus denying the very purpose and power of Jesus Christ in the Gospel.

All would agree that men must be made holy to enter the presence of God. But the question is: *When and How does this happen?* Will the death angel wave a magic wand over our hearts and make us holy? This folly is nothing else but a protestant purgatory. If you believe this, then *death* is your savior, and not Christ. But if Christ is our Savior, then why can’t He save us from sin’s power now? **There is no sanctifying power in death. It is the blood of Jesus that makes us holy and it avails to all who believe!**

How is it with your soul my friend? Are you still needlessly held captive in sin’s grip? If so, there is a fountain filled with *Emmanuel’s* blood which will cleanse your heart and make you free. God remains both willing and able to save all that simply believe. The real question is *‘Do you really WANT to be*

free? If you do, then nothing will be able to keep you from experiencing glorious freedom from all sin; For **God**, and not **sin**, is indeed the most powerful thing in the entire universe. -C.K.

Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him...” -**Hebrews 7:25**