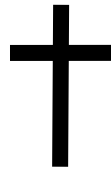


“I’m a Christian, but I  
*still* struggle with sin.

**Am I saved?”**



Bible verses that will  
encourage you!

Commentary By:  
Anthony Coleman

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Christian encouragement.

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*To my brothers in Christ who are a part of the  
"Man to Man Accountability Group" on Facebook.*

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# ***Introduction:***

**Here is the question:** As Christians, are we still saved if we struggle with sin during our journey of faith?

**The answer:** YES!

If you're still having doubts, then don't worry. This booklet is for you! Actually, hold on! If you're a Christian reading this booklet, then that's proof you're saved! How so? Because by reading this booklet, it shows that in your heart:

- You care if you violate God's standard.
- You seek God's forgiveness.
- You want to be with God.

(And if I'm able to see that, then surely God sees it too!)

As Christians, we must understand that we struggle with sin, not because we're unsaved, but because we're in a spiritual battle! That's why in Ephesians 6:10-18, we're told to put on the armor of God. The struggle with sin is real!

A great example of a Christian struggling with sin is the apostle Paul in Romans 7:14-25. Let's read how open and honest Paul is about his struggle:

**"We know that the Law is spiritual. But I am merely a human, and I have been sold as a slave to sin. In fact, I don't**

understand why I act the way I do. I don't do what I know is right. I do the things I hate. Although I don't do what I know is right, I agree that the Law is good. So I am not the one doing these evil things. The sin that lives in me is what does them.

I know that my selfish desires won't let me do anything that is good. Even when I want to do right, I cannot. Instead of doing what I know is right, I do wrong. And so, if I don't do what I know is right, I am no longer the one doing these evil things. The sin that lives in me is what does them.

The Law has shown me that something in me keeps me from doing what I know is right. With my whole heart I agree with the Law of God. But in every part of me I discover something fighting against my mind, and it makes me a prisoner of sin that controls everything I do. What a miserable person I am. Who will rescue me from this body that is doomed to die? Thank God! Jesus Christ will rescue me. ..."

- Romans 7:14-25 (CEV)

But wait! Jesus Himself chose Paul to be His apostle, even when He knew Paul would struggle with sin. Why? Because Jesus also knew Paul would trust Him (God) to help him through the struggle!

Struggling with sin doesn't invalidate our faith in Christ because our faith can only be validated by trusting in Christ.

I'll say it again...

Struggling with sin doesn't invalidate our faith in Christ because our faith can ONLY be validated by trusting in Christ!

Now, please allow me to be open and honest about my struggle:

I'm 29 years old and as I write this, I've been struggling with habitual sin (masturbation) since I was around 14 years old. Even after becoming a Christian at age 17, I still struggle with it and I hate it! My flesh, Satan, and this world are trying to influence me to lose sight of who I am in Christ, but I refuse to let those influences blind me! I know my identity is forever secure in Christ and I know He will not allow sin to rule over my life! My life belongs exclusively to God and as long as I trust in Christ, He will give me the victory!

***"But thank God for letting our Lord Jesus Christ give us the victory!" - 1 Corinthians 15:57 (CEV)***

By the power of the Holy Spirit, I pray to the Father in Jesus name that this booklet will encourage every Christian who reads it!

***\*Please make sure to answer all the questions throughout this booklet!***

# ***Old Testament Scriptures***



**1.** "I've commanded you to be strong and brave. Don't ever be afraid or discouraged! I am the LORD your God, and I will be there to help you wherever you go."

- *Joshua 1:9 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*If God will help us wherever we go, does that mean He will help us during the times when we are struggling with sin?*

**2.** "... 'Even though what you did was wrong, you don't need to be afraid. But you must always follow the LORD and worship Him with all your heart.'"

- 1 Samuel 12:20 (CEV)

**QUESTION:**

*We should never allow our struggle with sin to stop us from striving towards God.*

*Do you agree?*

**3.** "You know what is in everyone's heart. So from Your home in heaven answer their prayers, according to the way they live and what is in their hearts."

- 1 Kings 8:39 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*Since you have it in your heart to live for God, do you honestly believe God will allow your struggle with sin to distract Him from what's in your heart?*

**4.** "But You also said that no matter how far away we were, we could turn to You... ."

- *Nehemiah 1:9 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*During our struggle with sin, it may feel like we are far away from God. However, do you think God will accept us if we turn to Him?*

**5.** "My Creator, You would want me; You would call out, and I would answer. You would take care of me, but not count my sins—You would put them in a bag, tie it tight, and toss them away."

- *Job 14:15-17 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*Do you believe God calls out to you when you struggle with sin? If so, do you answer?*

**6.** "Sinners love the taste of sin; they relish every bite."

- *Job 20:12 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*Do you love the sin (or sins) you struggle with?*

**7.** "... 'I sinned and did wrong, but God forgave me and rescued me from death! Now I will see the light.' God gives each of us chance after chance to be saved from death and brought into the light that gives life."

- *Job 33:27-30 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*When you sin and do wrong throughout your struggle with sin, will God forgive you and rescue you from death?*

**8.** "The LORD protects everyone who follows Him, but the wicked follow a road that leads to ruin."

- *Psalm 1:6 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*Do you follow after God, even though you struggle with sin?*



**9.** "The wicked are too proud to turn to You or even think about You."

- *Psalm 10:4 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*When you struggle with sin, are you too proud to turn to God?*

**10.** "You listen to the longings of those who suffer. You offer them hope, and You pay attention to their cries for help."

- Psalm 10:17 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*Do you ask God for help during your struggle with sin? If so, will God listen and pay attention to you?*

**11.** "I love You, LORD God, and You make me strong. You are my mighty rock, my fortress, my protector, the rock where I am safe, my shield, my powerful weapon, and my place of shelter."

*- Psalm 18:1-2 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*Could a Christian who struggles with sin say what Psalm 18:1-2 says with a genuine heart?*

**12.** "The LORD doesn't hate or despise the helpless in all of their troubles. When I cried out, He listened and did not turn away."

- Psalm 22:24 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*When you cry out to God during your struggle with sin, do you honestly think He will turn away from you?*

**13.** "You are honest and merciful, and You teach sinners how to follow Your path. You lead humble people to do what is right and to stay on Your path."

- *Psalm 25:8-9 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*Will God lead a Christian who struggles with sin to stay on His path?*

**14.** "Your anger lasts a little while, but Your kindness lasts for a lifetime. At night we may cry, but when morning comes we will celebrate."

- *Psalm 30:5 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*God knows you struggle with sin, but He still wants to be kind to you. True or false?*

**15.** "Our God, You bless everyone whose sins You forgive and wipe away. You bless them by saying, 'You told Me your sins, without trying to hide them, and now I forgive you.' So I confessed my sins and told them all to You. I said, 'I'll tell the LORD each one of my sins.' Then You forgave me and took away my guilt."

- Psalm 32:1-2,5 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*Do you confess all of the sins you struggle with to God without trying to hide them?*

**16.** "The LORD is there to rescue all who are discouraged and have given up hope."

- Psalm 34:18 (CEV)

**QUESTION:**

*Has your struggle with sin ever left you feeling discouraged and hopeless?*



**17.** "Sinners don't respect God; sin is all they think about. They like themselves too much to hate their own sins or even to see them. They tell deceitful lies, and they don't have the sense to live right. Those people stay awake, thinking up mischief, and they follow the wrong road, refusing to turn from sin."

- Psalm 36:1-4 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*According to Psalm 36:1-4, is there a difference between sinners and Christians who struggle with sin?*

**18.** "I have more troubles than I can count. My sins are all around me, and I can't find my way. My sins outnumber the hairs on my head, and I feel weak. Please show that You care and come to my rescue. Hurry and help me!"

- *Psalm 40:12-13 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*Psalm 40:12-13 definitely sounds like a Christian who struggles with sin. Do you agree? If so, will God respond with compassion or contempt?*

**19.** "I prayed, 'Have pity, LORD! Heal me, though I have sinned against You.'"

- *Psalm 41:4 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*Have you prayed a prayer similar to Psalm 41:4 while struggling with sin?*

**20.** "You are kind, God! Please have pity on me. You are always merciful! Please wipe away my sins. Wash me clean from all of my sin and guilt. I know about my sins, and I cannot forget my terrible guilt. You are really the one I have sinned against; I have disobeyed You and have done wrong. So it is right and fair for You to correct and punish me.

Create pure thoughts in me and make me faithful again. Don't chase me away from You or take Your Holy Spirit away from me. Make me as happy as You did when you saved me; make me want to obey! The way to please You is to feel sorrow deep in our hearts. This is the kind of sacrifice You won't refuse."

- *Psalm 51:1-4,10-12,17 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*As a Christian who struggles with sin, have you ever read Psalm 51 out loud to God?*

**21.** "Our terrible sins get us down, but  
You forgive us."

- *Psalm 65:3 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*Will God forgive Christians who  
struggle with sin?*

**22.** "In heaven I have only You, and on this earth You are all I want. My body and mind may fail, but You are my strength and my choice forever."

- Psalm 73:25-26 (CEV)

**QUESTION:**

*Is it possible to truly love God while struggling with sin?*

**23.** "You willingly forgive, and Your love is always there for those who pray to You. Please listen, LORD! Answer my prayer for help. When I am in trouble, I pray, knowing You will listen."

- Psalm 86:5-7 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*If we seek to overcome our struggle with sin, then we must pray to God daily. Do you agree?*

**24.** "And when I was burdened with worries, You comforted me and made me feel secure."

- Psalm 94:19 (CEV)

**QUESTION:**

*Even though you struggle with sin, do you believe God wants to comfort you and make you feel secure?*



**25.** "The LORD is merciful! He is kind and patient, and His love never fails. The LORD won't always be angry and point out our sins; He doesn't punish us as our sins deserve.

How great is God's love for all who worship Him? Greater than the distance between heaven and earth! How far has the LORD taken our sins from us? Farther than the distance from east to west!"

- *Psalm 103:8-12 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*Do you allow your struggle with sin to stop you from worshipping God?*

**26.** "Take away my foolish desires, and let me find life by walking with You. Show me Your love and save me, LORD, as You have promised."

- Psalm 119:37,41 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*Psalm 119:37,41 also sounds like a Christian who struggles with sin. Do you agree? If so, will God respond with love or indifference?*

**27.** "If You kept record of our sins, no one could last long. But You forgive us, and so we will worship You."

- *Psalm 130:3-4 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*God is going to condemn you for the sins you struggle with. True or false?*

**28.** "When someone stumbles or falls,  
You give a helping hand."

- *Psalm 145:14 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*God is always ready to help you through your  
struggle with sin. True or false?*

**29.** "With all your heart you must trust the LORD and not your own judgment. Always let Him lead you, and He will clear the road for you to follow."

- *Proverbs 3:5-6 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*When you struggle with sin, do you trust God to lead you through it?*

**30.** "Fools don't care if they are wrong but God is pleased when people do right."

- Proverbs 14:9 (CEV)

**QUESTION:**

*God is pleased when you pray to Him with a repentant heart through your struggle with sin.  
True or false?*

**31.** "If we truly love God, our sins will be forgiven; if we show Him respect, we will keep away from sin."

- *Proverbs 16:6 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*We struggle with sin because we are trying to keep away from sin. True or false?*

**32.** "If you try to be kind and good, you will be blessed with life and goodness and honor."

- Proverbs 21:21 (CEV)

**QUESTION:**

*Will you try to be kind and good in your life or will you allow your struggle with sin to discourage you?*



**33.** "Don't give up and be helpless in times of trouble."

- *Proverbs 24:10 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*Will your struggle with sin influence you to abandon your faith?*

**34.** "Even if good people fall seven times, they will get back up. But when trouble strikes the wicked, that's the end of them."

- Proverbs 24:16 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*God will not condemn you for struggling with sin because He knows you will always strive to get back up when you fall. Do you agree?*

**35.** "If you don't confess your sins, you will be a failure. But God will be merciful if you confess your sins and give them up."

- Proverbs 28:13 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*Do you confess the sin (or sins) you struggle with to God while attempting to give them up?*

**36.** "Don't be afraid. I am with you. Don't tremble with fear. I am your God. I will make you strong, as I protect you with My arm and give you victories."

- *Isaiah 41:10 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*God is with you, even through your struggle with sin. True or false?*

**37.** God said, "But I wipe away your sins because of who I am. And so, I will forget the wrongs you have done."

- *Isaiah 43:25 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*God will not hold the sin (or sins) you struggle with against you. True or false?*

**38.** "But the LORD God keeps me from being disgraced. So I refuse to give up, because I know God will never let me down."

- *Isaiah 50:7 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*God wants to keep you from being disgraced because He wants to honor you. If that's the case, do you think He will let your struggle with sin to stop Him?*

**39.** "The LORD said: '... when you stumble and fall, you get back up, and if you take a wrong road, you turn around and go back.'"

- *Jeremiah 8:4 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*When your struggle with sin leads you to fall and to be distracted, do you trust that God wants you to get back up and to turn back to Him?*

**40.** "From the bottom of the pit, I prayed to You, LORD. I begged You to listen. 'Help!' I shouted. 'Save me!' You answered my prayer and came when I was in need. You told me, 'Don't worry!' You rescued me and saved my life."

- *Lamentations 3:55-58 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*Are you serious about wanting God to help you through your struggle with sin?*



**41.** "The LORD God then said: I will look for My sheep and take care of them Myself,... . I promise to take care of them and keep them safe, to look for those that are lost and bring back the ones that wander off, to bandage those that are hurt and protect the ones that are weak. ..."

- Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-16 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*Because of our struggle with sin, we will have moments when we are distracted, hurt, and weak. In those moments, will God comfort us?*

**42.** "But I trust the LORD God to save me, and I will wait for Him to answer my prayer. My enemies, don't be glad because of my troubles! I may have fallen, but I will get up; I may be sitting in the dark, but the LORD is my light."

- Micah 7:7-8 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*Do you trust God to guide you through your struggle with sin?*

***New Testament  
Scriptures***

**43.** Jesus said, "But if you keep on being faithful right to the end, you will be saved."

- *Matthew 24:13 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*Will you keep on trusting God right to the end, even though you struggle with sin?*

**44.** Jesus said, "Stay awake and pray that you won't be tested. You want to do what is right, but you are weak."

- *Matthew 26:41 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*Do you pray to God for strength through your struggle with sin?*

**45.** Jesus said, "I promise you that any of the sinful things you say or do can be forgiven, no matter how terrible those things are."

- *Mark 3:28 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*Based on what Jesus said in Mark 3:28, can the sin (or sins) you struggle with be forgiven?*

**46.** Jesus said, "... Correct any followers of Mine who sin, and forgive the ones who say they are sorry. Even if one of them mistreats you seven times in one day and says, 'I am sorry,' you should still forgive that person."

- Luke 17:3-4 (CEV)

**QUESTION:**

*Do you sincerely apologize to God when you struggle with sin?*

**47.** "Jesus told His disciples a story about how they should keep on praying and never give up: ... Won't God protect His chosen ones who pray to Him day and night? Won't He be concerned for them? He will surely hurry and help them. But when the Son of Man comes, will He find on this earth anyone with faith?"

*- Luke 18:1,7-8 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*I'm convinced that Luke 18:1,7-8 also applies to Christians who struggle with sin.*

*Do you agree?*



**48.** "Jesus said, 'Simon, listen to Me! Satan has demanded the right to test each one of you, as a farmer does when he separates wheat from the husks.'"

- Luke 22:31 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*Did you know Satan will use your struggle with sin to try to influence you to doubt your salvation and abandon your faith?*

**49.** "The light has come into the world, and people who do evil things are judged guilty because they love the dark more than the light. People who do evil hate the light and won't come to the light, because it clearly shows what they have done."

- *John 3:19-20 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*Since you struggle with sin, does that mean you love the dark more than the light?*

**50.** Jesus said, "Anyone who belongs to God will listen to His message. But you refuse to listen, because you don't belong to God."

- *John 8:47 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*Which one is God's message?*

- 1. To be saved, have faith in Jesus.*
- 2. To be saved, never struggle with sin.*

**51.** "The jailer asked for a torch and went into the jail. He was shaking all over as he knelt down in front of Paul and Silas. After he had led them out of the jail, he asked, 'What must I do to be saved?' They replied, 'Have faith in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved! This is also true for everyone who lives in your home.'"

-Acts 16:29-31 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*Can you honestly say that you have faith in the Lord Jesus, even though you struggle with sin?*

**52.** "But I don't care what happens to me, as long as I finish the work that the Lord Jesus gave me to do. And that work is to tell the good news about God's great kindness."

- Acts 20:24 (CEV)

**QUESTION:**

*Will you allow your struggle with sin to stop you from finishing the work that the Lord Jesus gave you to do?*

**53.** "God will reward each of us for what we have done. He will give eternal life to everyone who has patiently done what is good in the hope of receiving glory, honor, and life that lasts forever. But He will show how angry and furious He can be with every selfish person who rejects the truth and wants to do evil."

- *Romans 2:6-8 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*You struggle with sin because you reject the truth and want to do evil. True or false?*

**54.** "God treats everyone alike. He accepts people only because they have faith in Jesus Christ. All of us have sinned and fallen short of God's glory. But God treats us much better than we deserve, and because of Christ Jesus, He freely accepts us and sets us free from our sins."

- *Romans 3:22-24 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*Will God accept Christians who struggle with sin?*

**55.** "But you cannot make God accept you because of something you do. God accepts sinners only because they have faith in Him."

- Romans 4:5 (CEV)

**QUESTION:**

*As Christians who struggle with sin, it should be our goal to overcome the struggle. However, are we saved by overcoming our struggle?*



**56.** "When Christ died, He died for sin once and for all. But now He is alive, and He lives only for God. In the same way, you must think of yourselves as dead to the power of sin. But Christ Jesus has given life to you, and you live for God."

- *Romans 6:10-11 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*Because of your faith, you are saved by the new life Jesus gave you. Since He died and was raised to life, sin has no power over you. You live by the power of God, even while you struggle with sin. Do you agree?*

**57.** "People who are ruled by their desires think only of themselves. ... You are no longer ruled by your desires, but by God's Spirit, who lives in you. People who don't have the Spirit of Christ in them don't belong to Him."

- *Romans 8:5,9 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*Christians who struggle with sin are ruled by their desires. True or false?*

**58.** "What can we say about all this? If God is on our side, can anyone be against us? If God says His chosen ones are acceptable to Him, can anyone bring charges against them? Or can anyone condemn them? No indeed! Christ died and was raised to life, and now He is at God's right side, speaking to Him for us."

*- Romans 8:31,33-34 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*Because of your faith, you are God's chosen one, and no one (including you) has the right to condemn you for your struggle with sin. God accepts you and He is on your side.*

*Do you agree?*

**59.** “Can anything separate us from the love of Christ? Can trouble, suffering, and hard times, or hunger and nakedness, or danger and death? I am sure that nothing can separate us from God’s love—not life or death, not angels or spirits, not the present or the future, and not powers above or powers below. Nothing in all creation can separate us from God’s love for us in Christ Jesus our Lord!”

*- Romans 8:35,38-39 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*According to Romans 8:35,38-39, do you honestly believe that your struggle with sin can separate you from God’s love for you in Christ Jesus our Lord?*

**60.** "So you will be saved, if you honestly say, 'Jesus is Lord,' and if you believe with all your heart that God raised Him from death. God will accept you and save you, if you truly believe this and tell it to others."

- *Romans 10:9-10 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*Is it true that the only way to sincerely say "Jesus is Lord" is when we completely overcome our struggle with sin?*

**61.** "You surely know that your body is a temple where the Holy Spirit lives. The Spirit is in you and is a gift from God. You are no longer your own. God paid a great price for you. So use your body to honor God. God doesn't take back the gifts He has given or disown the people He has chosen."

*- 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (CEV), Romans 11:29 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*If God paid a great price for you, will He help you overcome your struggle with sin or will He disown you?*

**62.** "Even if you think you can stand up to temptation, be careful not to fall. You are tempted in the same way that everyone else is tempted. But God can be trusted not to let you be tempted too much, and He will show you how to escape from your temptations. I am grateful that God always makes it possible for Christ to lead us to victory. ... "

- 1 Corinthians 10:12-13 (CEV), 2 Corinthians 2:14 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*Since we struggle with sin, it's important for us to be aware of the temptations that influence us and we must try our best to avoid them with God's help. Do you agree?*

**63.** "When people sin, you should forgive and comfort them, so they won't give up in despair. You should make them sure of your love for them."

- 2 Corinthians 2:7-8 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*Would it align with God's character if 2 Corinthians 2:7-8 is what God says to Himself regarding Christians who struggle with sin?*



**64.** "We often suffer, but we are never crushed. Even when we don't know what to do, we never give up. In times of trouble, God is with us, and when we are knocked down, we get up again."

- 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*In those moments when you struggle with sin and you don't know what to do, do you think of giving up?*

**65.** "I have not yet reached my goal, and I am not perfect. But Christ has taken hold of me. So I keep on running and struggling to take hold of the prize. My friends, I don't feel that I have already arrived. But I forget what is behind, and I struggle for what is ahead. I run toward the goal, so that I can win the prize of being called to heaven. This is the prize that God offers because of what Christ Jesus has done."

- *Philippians 3:12-14 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*According to Philippians 3:12-14, can Christians be certain of their victory over sin while struggling with sin?*

**66.** "My friends, watch out! Don't let evil thoughts or doubts make any of you turn from the living God."

- Hebrews 3:12 (CEV)

**QUESTION:**

*Do you ever have doubts about your salvation when you struggle with sin?*

**67.** "Jesus understands every weakness of ours, because He was tempted in every way that we are. But He did not sin! So whenever we are in need, we should come bravely before the throne of our merciful God. There we will be treated with undeserved kindness, and we will find help."

- *Hebrews 4:15-16 (CEV)*

### QUESTION:

*Do you believe Jesus understands your struggle with sin? If so, will you always go to Him when you are in need of help?*

**68.** "Pray for us. Our consciences are clear, and we always try to live right."

- *Hebrews 13:18 (CEV)*

**QUESTION:**

*If you noticed, Hebrews 13:18 says "we always try to live right". It doesn't say "we always live right". If we have to try to live right, then that implies we will struggle with sin. Do you agree?*

**69.** "God will bless you, if you don't give up when your faith is being tested. He will reward you with a glorious life, just as He rewards everyone who loves Him."

- James 1:12 (CEV)

**QUESTION:**

*Could our struggle with sin be a test of our faith? If so, do you plan on giving up?*

**70.** "You have faith in God, whose power will protect you until the last day. Then He will save you, just as He has always planned to do."

- 1 Peter 1:5 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*If our faith in God is genuine, will God protect us through our struggle with sin or will He allow sin to destroy us?*

**71.** "Be on your guard and stay awake. Your enemy, the devil, is like a roaring lion, sneaking around to find someone to attack. But you must resist the devil and stay strong in your faith. Know that all over the world the Lord's followers are suffering just as you are."

- 1 Peter 5:8-9 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*How many times do we need to resist the devil and stay strong in our faith to get through our struggle with sin?*

- 1. Just once.*
- 2. Every day.*



**72.** "When they learned about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they escaped from the filthy things of this world. But they are again caught up and controlled by these filthy things, and now they are in worse shape than they were at first. They would have been better off if they had never known about the right way. Even after they knew what was right, they turned their backs on the holy commandments that they were given."

- 2 Peter 2:20-21 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*Will your struggle with sin lead you to turn your back on God's holy commandments (Love God and love each other)?*

**73.** "If we say that we have not sinned, we are fooling ourselves, and the truth isn't in our hearts. But if we confess our sins to God, He can always be trusted to forgive us and take our sins away. If we say that we have not sinned, we make God a liar, and His message isn't in our hearts."

- 1 John 1:8-10 (CEV)

### QUESTION:

*When you confess the sin (or sins) you struggle with to God, are you confident that He is always ready to forgive you?*

**74.** "My children, I am writing this so that you won't sin. But if you do sin, Jesus Christ always does the right thing, and He will speak to the Father for us. Christ is the sacrifice that takes away our sins and the sins of the world's people."

- 1 John 2:1-2 (CEV)

**QUESTION:**

*A genuine Christian will never sin or struggle with sin. True or false?*

**75.** Jesus said, "You have endured and gone through hard times because of Me, and you have not given up."

- Revelation 2:3 (CEV)

**QUESTION:**

*I'm convinced that Jesus would consider struggling with sin as an example of going through hard times. Do you agree?*

## **Conclusion:**

**Here is the question:** If sin is an offense against God, why would He create us knowing we would commit so many sins in our lives?

**The answer:** Because He knew He would provide *The Way* for us to be saved from our sins!

God didn't have to create us. He didn't need to create us. He chose to create us because He wanted us to experience His love for eternity! All we have to do is have genuine faith in Him and trust in *The Way* He provided!

**"Real love isn't our love for God, but His love for us. God sent His Son to be the sacrifice by which our sins are forgiven."**

- 1 John 4:10 (CEV)

DO NOT allow your flesh, Satan, and this world to blind you to who you are in Christ! Never lose sight of God's unconditional love for you!

**You might ask:** But Anthony, what does it mean to really trust in Christ (God) through my struggle with sin?

**I will answer:** In the Book of Daniel, King Nebuchadnezzar ordered men of God (*Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego*) to worship his gods and the gold statue he set up. He also

told them that they would be thrown into a flaming furnace if they refused.

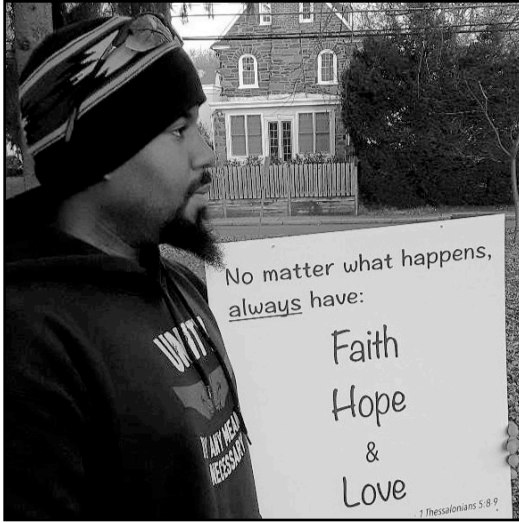
How did the men of God reply?

**“The three men replied, ‘Your Majesty, we don’t need to defend ourselves. The God we worship can save us from you and your flaming furnace. But even if He doesn’t, we still won’t worship your gods and the gold statue you have set up.’” - Daniel 3:16-18 (CEV)**

When it comes to the struggle with sin, you must respond in a similar way! You must say:

**“I know God can completely deliver me from the struggle with sin. But even if He doesn’t, I will *still* fight against sin as long as I live. Why? Because I love Christ (God) and I know He loves me!”**

## ***About The Commentator:***



***Anthony Coleman*** is a Christian who's passionate about encouraging other Christians in their faith. In his spare time, he walks around his community wearing a sandwich board to promote his website that's dedicated to those seeking God.

Anthony's website is:

**[www.PICMinistry.org](http://www.PICMinistry.org)**

If you are interested in reading more from *Anthony Coleman*, go to: [www.PICMinistry.org](http://www.PICMinistry.org)

