

A person in silhouette is pushing a large, dark, textured boulder up a grassy hill. The scene is set against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The overall mood is one of struggle and perseverance.

# SPIRITUAL HINDRANCES: Flesh, Sin & Devil

感恩 KUM YAN | METHODIST CHURCH

**Ps Alan Tay | Sep 22, 2024 (Sunday)**

# **VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN LIFE?**



# Faith in America

**Pew Research** - A new survey finds that a majority of self-identified Christians don't care what God thinks about the issue of sex. >50% said casual sex is sometimes or always acceptable

**LifeWay Research** - 2 out of 3 Americans confess to being a sinner (67%). The rest don't see themselves as sinners (8%), don't think sin exists (10%), or preferred not to answer the question (15%).

**Twitter Lent Tracker** - Twitter users aren't giving up any of those sins for Lent this year. Social networking topped the list, followed by Twitter, alcohol, chocolate, swearing, and meat.





# What a wretched man I am!

<sup>15</sup> I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.<sup>16</sup> And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup> As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is **sin living in me**. <sup>18</sup> For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, **in my sinful nature**. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is **sin living in me** that does it.

**Romans 7.15-20 (NIV)**



# **King David: Lust, Lie & Lament**

<sup>1</sup> In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel. And they ravaged the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. **But David remained at Jerusalem.**

<sup>2</sup> It happened, late one afternoon, when David arose from his couch and was walking on the roof of the king's house, that **HE SAW** from the roof a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful.

**2 Samuel 11** ESV



<sup>3</sup> And **David sent and inquired** about the woman. And one said, “Is not this **Bathsheba**, the daughter of Eliam, the **wife of Uriah the Hittite?**”

<sup>4</sup> **So David sent messengers and took her**, and she came to him, **and he lay with her.** (Now she had been purifying herself from her uncleanness.) Then she returned to her house.

## **2 Samuel 11** ESV

These are the names of the **mighty men whom David had: ...Uriah the Hittite:** thirty-seven in all. **2 Samuel 23.8, 39** ESV





**5 And the woman conceived, and she sent and told David, “I am pregnant.”**

**6 So David sent word to Joab,** “Send me Uriah the Hittite.”

**13 And David invited him,** and he ate in his presence and drank, **so that he made him drunk...** but he did not go down to his house.

**14 In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab** and sent it by the hand of Uriah. **15 In the letter he wrote,** “Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, that he may be struck down, and die.”

**2 Samuel 11** ESV



# Process of Sin

<sup>14</sup> But each person is tempted when he is **lured and enticed by his own desire**. <sup>15</sup> Then **desire when it has conceived** gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

**James 1** ESV



# Do not love the World

<sup>15</sup> Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup> For all that is in the world—the **desires of the flesh** and the **desires of the eyes** and **pride of life**—is not from the Father but is from the world. <sup>17</sup> And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

1 John 2 ESV





# **King David: Lust, Lie & Lament**

**Sin**  
**Transgression**  
**Iniquity**  
**Exodus 34.6-7**



<sup>6</sup> The Lord passed before him and proclaimed,  
“The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and  
faithfulness, <sup>7</sup>keeping steadfast love for thousands,  
forgiving **iniquity** and **transgression** and **sin**,  
but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the  
iniquity of the fathers on the children and the  
children's children, to the third and the fourth  
generation.”



Exodus 34.6-7 (ESV)  
cf. Ezekiel 18.3-4, 20

# Sin

Miss the Mark  
Fall short the glory of God



# Transgression

Step over the boundary in rebellion





# **Iniquity**

**Twisted or crooked road  
premeditated choice;  
to continue without repentance.  
Pattern in the family history.**



<sup>3</sup> As I live, declares the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup> Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die.

<sup>20</sup> The soul who sins shall die. **The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son.** The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.

Ezekiel 18.3-4, 20 (ESV)



# **The Devil & Demons**

**<sup>12</sup> For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.**

**<sup>13</sup> Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.**

**Ephesians 6 ESV**

# Jesus the Shepherd of Our Souls

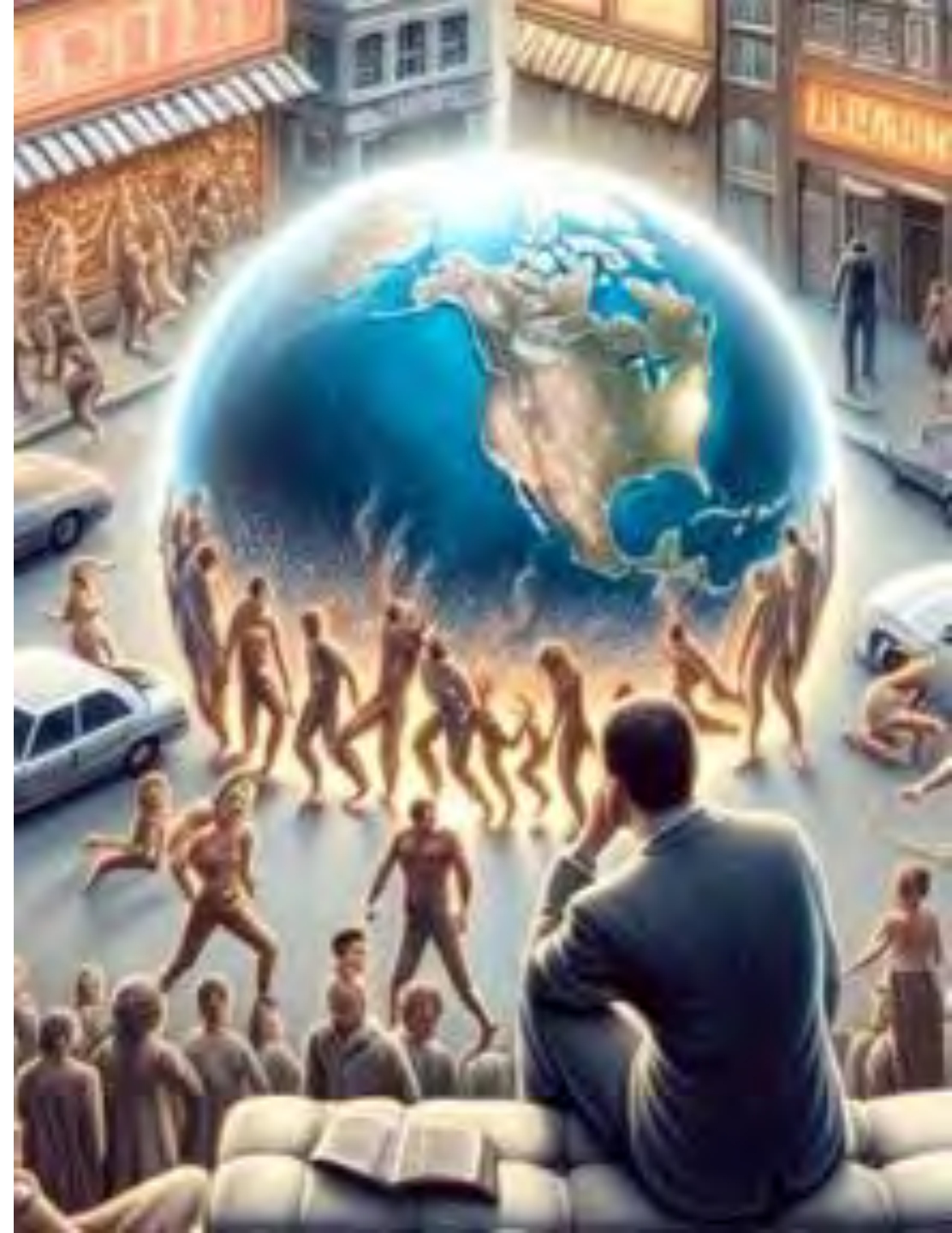
<sup>21</sup> For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. <sup>22</sup> He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. <sup>23</sup> When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. <sup>24</sup> **He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.** <sup>25</sup> For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

**1 Peter 2:21-25** ESV

# Throw Off Hindrances

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely,** and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

**Hebrews 12.1-2 (ESV)**



# Know Who You Are!

<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.<sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are **God's people**; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

**1 Peter 2.9-10 (ESV)**



# Know Who You Are!

<sup>11</sup> **Beloved**, I urge you as **sojourners** and **exiles** to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup> **Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable**, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

**1 Peter 2.11-12 (ESV)**



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# **Renunciation Prayer**

**Dear Lord,**

**I thank You that I am a NEW CREATION in Christ.**

**I desire to obey Your command to honour my mother and my father, but I also acknowledge that my physical heritage has not been perfect.**

**I ask you to reveal to my mind the sins of my ancestors in order to confess renounce and forsake them.**

**In Jesus' name, I pray, amen.**

# **Renunciation Prayer**

**I here and now reject and disown all the sins and iniquities of my ancestors, including:**

(name those that have come to mind).

**As one who has been delivered from the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of God's dear Son,**

**I cancel out all demonic working that has been passed on to me from my ancestors.**

# **Renunciation Prayer**

**As one who has been crucified and raised with Jesus Christ and who sits with Him in heavenly places,**

**I renounce all satanic assignments that are directed towards me, my family and my service to God, and**

**I cancel every every curse that Satan and his workers have put on me.**

**I announce to Satan and all his forces that Christ became a curse for me (Galatians 3:13) when He died for my sins on the cross.**

# **Renunciation Prayer**

**I reject any and every way in which Satan may claim ownership of me.**

**I belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who purchased me with His own blood.**

**I reject all other blood sacrifices whereby Satan may claim ownership of me.**

**I declare myself to be eternally and completely signed over and committed to the Lord Jesus Christ.**

# **Renunciation Prayer**

**By the authority I have in Jesus Christ,**

**I now command every spiritual enemy of the Lord Jesus Christ to leave my presence.**

**I commit myself to my heavenly Father to do His will from this day forward.**

# **Renunciation Prayer**

**Dear Lord, I come to You as Your child purchased by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. You are the Lord of the universe and the Lord of my life.**

**I submit my body to You as an instrument of righteousness, a living sacrifice, that I may glorify You in my body.**

**I now ask You to fill me with Your Holy spirit. I commit myself to the renewing of my mind in order to prove that Your will is good, perfect and acceptable for me. All this I do in the name and authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.**

# **Reflection Questions:**

1. How would you explain the differences of sin, transgression, and iniquity?
2. If there's an area of your life that you need to renounce or repent of, what would that be?
3. What steps can you take to lead someone to recognise his/her sin and help that person turn toward God?