

Would a Christian be inclined to live in deliberate, continual sin because he has received forgiveness of all his sins?

No. A person who has received a new life wants to learn to know and become more like Christ. Such a person will certainly continue to battle against his fallen human nature for the rest of his earthly life. Still, the new birth specifically leads to a *battle* against sin and continual turning back towards Christ.

Anyone who continues to live in “carefree” unrepentant sin, yet claims to be ransomed by Christ, needs to seriously ask the question: have I truly been ransomed?

Rom. 6:15-16

“What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?”

Is it possible to be saved another way than through the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

No. This is the only path to salvation. What else would even be valuable enough to atone for our infinitely severe sins other than the infinite worth of the Son of God, who Himself is God?

Acts 4:12

“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

John 14:5-7

“Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

SOME COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS

Can one pay off their debt of sin to God by doing good works or donating money?

No, it is not possible.

Attempting to pay off one’s sins would be like a man who deliberately vandalizes a king’s expensive car and, after feeling some regret, places a \$10 bill under the windshield wipers and then feels pleased with himself.

Also, what good could you offer to God that you did not receive from Him in the first place? He does not need anything from you! God says:

Ps. 50:9-15

“I will not accept a bull from your house or goats from your folds.

For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.

I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and its fullness are mine.

Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats?

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High, and call upon me in the day of trouble;

I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”

How good must you be to enter into heaven?

-OR-
what is God’s measuring stick like?

Many envision God’s way of measuring us like this:

