

Liberation Part 2

1 John 3:4-5

⁴Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. ⁵And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin.

Christmas is an Exciting time of year where stop and focus on the coming of Jesus Christ into the world

A)I remember as a kid being excited about Christmas for all the wrong reasons –
➤ presents! Christmas cookies /Candy Canes!

B)Our family tradition was We opened our presents Christmas day Which made Christmas Eve the longest day of the year/
1)wake up 4 or 5 times - time yet!

C)One year I was around 10 years old - expecting a new bike /What I asked for really wanted!

So I wake up on Christmas morning – run out to the tree and there is no package around the tree-looks big enough to be a bike

A)So I am already feeling a bit of a disappointment

B)My mom hands me the first package – I unwrap it – Socks - thinking gee mom thanks – what I always wanted

C)Next package is underwear – thinking – times must be rough

D)Next package is a couple of shirts – just what every 10 year old really wants for Christmas

E)By the end of the gift opening – there were a few small toys and a couple of more shirts
1)I am trying to be appreciative – but I am thinking this is the worst Christmas ever! – Money must be tight

It was at that moment that my dad – asked me to go into the garage and get a garbage bag for to put the wrapping paper in.

A)I head to the garage, turn on the light – and there it was - a Beautiful Metallic purple Huffy Stingray – Banana seat! – Amazing – PIC

B)I was so happy – I loved that bike!

1)For a couple of months I washed and waxed it every week. –

C)I loved riding around our neighborhood on that bike!

1)Wheelies down our whole block

But over time I started to take that bike for granted

A)Went through the chopper stage – forks – sissy bar – PIC

B)We would take it to this field by our house go off this Jump – bail off in mid-air it would fall into the dirty ditch full of water 20 feet below

C)It only took a couple of years for that bike to lose its specialness – started to take it for granted

D)You know that is going to happen to many of us this year –

1)You might get something – super excited about

E)A few months later – you are going to take for granted – lose its luster

But there is a gift friends that we have to fight to make sure that doesn't happen to us

A)That gift is the Salvation that we are given because Jesus Christ left heaven and came into this world

B)The writer of the book of Hebrews wrote – that we needed to be careful to not neglect so great a Salvation

C)So this year our Christmas series has centered that idea – looking at why did Jesus come into this world.

1)John in 3 separate verses uses the word manifested to tell us why Jesus came into this world

Manifested = to make visible, realized, to expose

A) Webster's = To put on display

B)Dictionary.com - to make clear or evident to the eye or the understanding; show plainly:

1)to prove; put beyond doubt or question:

Last week: 1 John 3:8 – Jesus was manifested to destroy the works of the Devil

A)Next week – 1 John 4:9 In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

B)But today we want to consider 1 John 3:5 – He was manifested to take away our sins

Consider the Christmas story for a moment !

A)Mary and Joseph were a young couple living in the town of Nazareth they were espoused to be married

B)In That culture: marriages were by arrangement: "Your daughter my son - engaged at any age!"

C) One year before the couple would reach the age where they could get married - become espoused or betrothed to each other

1) This espousal could only be broken by death or divorce - that serious!

D)The couple was completely committed to each other except their marriage wasn't consummated!

1) So Mary and Joseph had entered this period of espousal!

It was during this time of their relationship - that the Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary - "Highly Favored among women"

A)She would be the human instrument for bringing God's Son into the world!

B)Mary - "Lord how can this be?" - How can I have a child when I am not married?

1)Power of Lord come upon you - H.S. overshadow you - give birth to one called Son of the Most High

C)Mary is the godly young girl – says- I don't understand it – but so be it I am willing – Problem - How do I tell this to Joseph?

When Joseph First heard he was shocked! Probably thought Mary flipped her lid by story pregnant by H.S. - right!

A)Now in that day infidelity during espousal - looked upon as a shameful act. (Considered married – so this was same a adultery)

B)Joseph two choices: Stone as an adulterer - or put her away quietly - certificate of divorce –

1)Joseph pondered - what do I do?

C)Decided to put her away quietly when Gabriel appeared to him

1)told him not to be afraid to take Mary as wife what she said was true

D)She will have a son and you shall call him name Joshua for he will save his people from their sins!

E)Glorious name Joshua / Jesus in Greek / Joshua in Hebrew means-The Lord has become our salvation"

1)That is exactly what was happening when Jesus entered into our world – become one of us – the Lord has become our salvation

Mankind needed Savior – Because Mankind had sinned – fallen short of the glory of God.

⁴Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. ⁵

A)Lawlessness is living as though your own ideas are superior to God's.

B) Lawlessness replaces God's law with my contrary desires.

C)That was the state of all of us – from the Fall – started there

1)Condition – did what was right in our own yes – Sinners

D)When my Son Aaron was a boy – he could be so silly – class clown.

1)So we were having this discussion one day – about how there are times to be silly times not to be silly / class at school is not the time to be silly

E)If you are silly in class/ you will find yourself getting in trouble !

1)He responded dad "Everyone gets in trouble sometimes because All sinners!" - True all sinners

The Bible describes our condition as meandering through life – trying to find our way, trying to find purpose – reason for our existence

A)Nothing we were doing brought lasting satisfaction

B)Our hearts were plagued by guilt because of our sin – so we would try to do things to avoid the feelings of guilt and emptiness

1)A temporary resolve – but would result in more emptiness and more guilt

C)But God the Father saw man in His meandering state;

1)plagued by Guilt /bound in sin separated from Him because of sin

D)He did something about it – He sent his Son Jesus into the world – born of the virgin marry!

1)He was manifested to deal with our sinful condition and provide a way for Man to be restored in our relationship to God!

Jesus was Manifested to take away our sins – How?

#1 Jesus took away the penalty of sin

A)He took away our sin by taking our sin upon Himself.

Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. Isaiah 53:4

B)The baby born in the manger was born to die – in our place – take the punishment upon himself that we deserved!

He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities;
The chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him. And by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way;
And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. Isaiah 53:5,6

Jesus took away the penalty of sin

A)He took it away by taking the penalty of sin upon Himself.

B)He took away our sins, by becoming sin for us.

²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:21

C)My God my God why have you forsake me!

1)He lived in perfect harmony union – with the Father – a closeness that is beyond what we could even imagine

D)But it was broken in that moment

The emotional stress leading up to that caused Jesus to declare in John 12 – My soul is greatly troubled – Father save me from this hour

A)But I know it is for this hour that I have come! – the birth in Bethlehem – my whole life has been leading to this

B)A couple of days later in the garden of Gethsemne

1)Jesus is praying – 3 times Let this cup pass – but not my will but yours

Bb)That moment was so intense that – Jesus sweat drops of blood

C)The Sweating of blood is a very rare condition called – Hemato/hi/drosis

1)Condition brought on by intense stress

D)Sometimes Roman soldiers would sweat blood – before going into battle

Jesus before going the cross – Knowing – all the sin of the world would be put on him – literally become sin for us

A)And experience separation from His father – experienced Hemato/hi/drosis – sweat drops of blood

B)On the Cross – Cry out – My God..... – Died of a ruptured or broken heart

C)So He took away the penalty of sin

#2 He took away the presence of sin!

A) In Luke 7 Jesus was at the home of Simon the Pharisee – courtyard sat down to eat when a woman / who was a prostitute / (sinner) came in!

B) Took an alabaster flask of fragrant oil / wash feet w/ tears / dry w/ hair - anoint feet w/ oil!

1)Now Simon was upset that Jesus allowed this woman to touch him "if real prophet he would know what kind of woman she was.

C)How did Simon know and how did this woman know how to get into his courtyard – another day

Jesus knew that this woman was a sinner / But he also realized that she knew what she was and that's why she was here !

A) this woman knew that she was a sinner/ she knew the presence of sin had permeated her life - she was rotting

B) She somehow felt that Jesus had the answer - - She comes to him - sought to bless him by this action of anointing

C) Jesus knowing what Simon was thinking - Story - always stories to illustrate a point - picture this

1) Simon and his Pharisee buddies - Jesus said

A man loaned money to two people—500 pieces of silver to one and 50 pieces to the other. ⁴² But neither of them could repay him, so he kindly forgave them both, canceling their debts. **Who do you suppose loved him more after that?"**

⁴³ Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the larger debt."

"That's right," Jesus said. ⁴⁴ **Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon,** "Look at this woman kneeling here. When I entered your home, you didn't offer me water to wash the dust from my feet, but she has washed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You didn't greet me with a kiss, but from the time I first came in, she has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶ You neglected the courtesy of olive oil to anoint my head, but she has anointed my feet with rare perfume.

⁴⁷ Therefore I say to you, her sins, *which are many*, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, *the same* loves little."

⁴⁸ Then He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

When Jesus said to her your sins are forgiven - it meant taken away removed! Forgiven & forgotten

A) Amanda & the Calculator Clear

B) That's what happens to our sins when God forgives us. - CLEAR - GONE !

Isaiah 43:25 **I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins**

C) **FORGIVEN AND FORGOTTEN**

10 He has **not dealt** with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities.

11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him;

12 As far as the east is from the west,
So far has He removed our transgressions from us.
Psalm 103:10-12

D) East from the west - no connecting point - Forgiven and forgotten

How can God Forget our sins - We can't - we forgive but we remember

A) But God has the ability to literally put something out of His remembrance - GONE !

B) Lord forgive me again - Again - no idea what you are talking about

1) AMAZING -

C) LISTEN friends you can forgive yourself - because God has forgiven you - forgotten

1) Free from guilt

D) So Jesus took away the penalty of sin - the presence of sin and #3 The power of sin!

Turn to Romans 6

In Romans 6 we see this principle laid out very clearly of how the power of sin has been broken in our lives

A) We are united with Jesus in his death and in his Resurrection!

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin (**Live in - bondage to**)

that grace may abound? 2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? (**died to sin?**) 3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, (**Baptism is symbolic of death - also a Resurrection**) that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, (**Ramification**) 6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

B) **Knowing this:** old man has been crucified w/ Christ

1) This body – this old nature that has been prone to sin – has been done away with

C) Done away with is not annihilated - done away with is katargeo = Rendered inactive

D) OLD MAN is always going to be present as long as we are living in these bodies –

1) but we don't have to be in bondage to that anymore
Power rendered inactive

Think of it this way: Coach Matthews Basketball – ran us like crazy

A) Run sometimes until we threw up – horrible - best shape of my life but really hard

B) But we were under his control – if we wanted to be on the team and play – no choice

C) So let's say I run into – Coach Matthews at Home Depot –

1) Salvato give me 20 laps around the store right now

2) Sorry coach not happening – Power rendered inactive –

D) I can say no to that OLD MAN – OLD COACH

That is what Paul is saying here – We can say no to the old man!

A) We can live with and for a whole new purpose

¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. ¹³ And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. ¹⁴ For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

B) We can present ourselves to Christ – now – our bodies as instruments of righteousness

C) No longer have to live in bondage to our fleshly desires

D) The Power of the Resurrected Jesus is now living in us

1) We can say no to sin and yes to Jesus

See this is important for us to understand – because we can take for granted this great salvation – by now living in the reality freedom that it supplies

A) Like a gift that you get for Christmas that you are super excited about that ends up sitting in the closet and is never used

B) In Jesus we have everything we need to live lives of fullness and godliness –

C) But we need to appropriate the life and the power that is available to us in Jesus

1) Use it – don't take it for granted

But you know what is even worse than taking a gift for granted is never opening it in the first place.

A) I send you a gift – amazon packet on your doorstep – you never bring it in the house – you see it is from me – how sweet

B) And it just sits there – on doorstep – you walk by it day after day month after month – year after year

1) I would be so bummed

C) Think how God feels – His gift – His son – Manifested to take away your sins

1) Penalty paid the price – that has been done – but you have to receive it and appropriate it – put your faith in Jesus

D) Take away the presence – Removed forgiven and forgotten

1) Power – no need to live in bondage to fleshly desires

Doorstep – Jesus said Behold I stand at the door and knock – opens – come in – forgive – fellowship – life

A) The gift is there on the doorstep of your heart – will you receive it ?

B) Choice is yours – pray