

“If We Sin Willfully...”

Hebrews 10:26-31

Introduction: This is a difficult subject! Christians know they should not sin. But when some Christians commit sin they act as though they would rather die in their sin than allow someone to expose their error (Rom. 6:1-2). This lesson is designed to expose the sins we willingly commit.

I. What is sin?

A. Sin is breaking the law (Rom. 7:7-11; 1 John 3:4).

B. Even the transgression of one law makes us guilty of it all (Jas. 2:9-10).

II. What is willful sin?

A. Willful sin is breaking God’s law on purpose without remorse. It is intentional disobedience with impunity. When a person knows he is doing wrong and has no intentions to repent, that is willful sin.

B. For example:

- A person in apostacy (became a Christian and left the faith).
- A church that runs off members but won’t make amends.
- Withholding the truth for the sake of more members.
- Committing any sin but not asking forgiveness.

C. God’s Old Law concerning willful (presumptuous) sin (Num. 15:29-31).

1. Presumptuously committing sin is defiantly committing sin.

2. The punishment for willful or presumptuous sin was to be cut off.

“Cut off” means physical death because the offender despised the word of the Lord by breaking His law!

D. We often equate willful sin with sins that have grave consequences like adultery. However, all sins carry the same eternal consequences (Jas. 1:14-15). Hell will be the eternal consequence for sin (Heb. 10:27).

E. The “little” sins should alarm us most (Heb. 10:26).

1. Lying (Col. 3:9)

2. Cursing (Matt. 12:36-37)

3. Forsaking the assembly (Heb. 10:25). Isn’t it interesting that the passage connects forsaking services with willful sin?

III. “There no longer remains a sacrifice for sins.”

A. What sacrifice (Heb. 10:29)?

B. Does that mean Christ’s death will not cover our willful sins (Heb. 10:26-31)? Think of it this way...

1. Does a person who willfully sins deserve Christ's saving blood?
 2. When we sin willfully, we despise the sacrifice that was given to atone for our sins. Christ already gave the ultimate sacrifice. What else should He give? Do we want more from Him (John 3:16)?
 3. Was Christ's death on the cross not good enough that we would want a greater sacrifice? Are we not grateful for His sacrifice?
 4. When we sin willfully we spit in His face. We might as well have driven the stacks into the Lord ourselves. We are trampling the Lord underfoot!
- C. Jesus Christ died once for our sins (Heb. 9:24-28).
- D. Willful sin shows we do not know Christ (1 John 3:4-9).

IV. What can we do about willful sin?

- A. Repent and ask for forgiveness; otherwise, "there remains no more sacrifice for sins."
- B. God is longsuffering but requires repentance (2 Pet. 3:9).
- B. God will apply His laws evenly at Judgment (Rom. 2:11-13).

Conclusion: Willfully committing sin will prevent anyone from reaching heaven. Would you please repent of your sins?

Song before the lesson: #439, Psalm 19

Invitation song: #604, I'm The One