

"He That Covereth His Sins Shall Not Prosper: but whoso confesseth AND forsaketh them shall have Mercy." Proverbs 28:13 KJV

Don't sweep sin under the rug of ignorance and pleasure! How often do we sin, and "confess" it to God with absolutely no intention of forsaking it? Confession or admitting sin is of no avail unless we first purpose in our heart to forsake it. Otherwise, we just ignore it with the devil's excuse, "I'm going to just do it again, so why bother?" or, "It's just too hard!" The difficulty of the obstacle is relative to the desire of the heart. There is no obstacle great enough to stop the lover from fulfilling the desire of their beloved! The heart must change from love of self to love of God or there will be no desire to repent of sin. *"Delight thyself also in the LORD; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart."* It is the desire of the heart that determines the direction of the soul. Repentance is the heart's desire of those that love God. We obey because we want to do it, not because we have to do it. *"We love Him, because He first Loved us."* The Christian's life is like riding a bicycle: At first you fail, and fail, and fail, and fail, and it seems you never stop falling down, but you keep getting up, because you WANT to ride the bike! *"The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: [because] he delighteth in His way. A just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: We are more than conquerors through Him that Loved us."* You can't sin without consequences. *"Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."* The true mark of a child of God is that he submits to God's correction. *"For whom the Lord Loveth He chasteneth (corrects), and scourgeth (shapes) every son (child) whom He receiveth. But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. For we are His workmanship in Christ Jesus."* We all wish to succeed and view failure as unacceptable, but God has to let us reap what we sow that we may learn to *"walk in the Spirit."* Parents will sometimes let disobedient child fail to teach them obedience. "Don't jump on the bed!" But they do anyway. I did, the bed broke, and Dad let me sleep in it that way for a month! (I was glad when he fixed it!) You fall, because God let you fall to teach you a lesson. No one learned to ride a bike without falling! Father holds us up as long as we stay with Him and hold onto His hand, but if you run ahead, when you trip you'll fall! Failures teach us to walk by faith (obedience). Falling isn't a dilemma for those to whom sin is a pleasure. Hogs seek miry muck. Unbelievers love sin! They revel in it and go back for seconds! Fun is Satan's bait for sin's snare. *"Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. Be sure your sin will find you out."* When feelings are our standard of happiness, we deny Truth. The greatest earthly "fun" you could possibly imagine would be but a spot on the white linen cloth of Heaven's *"pleasures for evermore! Contentment with Godliness is great gain."* Desire determines delight. Fact, Faith, and Feelings were crossing Sin's bog on the stepping stones of Truth. Faith followed Fact and Feelings was last. Feelings complained the stones were too far apart. Faith turned to plead with Feelings, and they both fell into the bog of Sin! As long as your faith trusts the absolutes of God's Word, you will arrive safely, but if you trust how you feel, you'll fall!



The hidden sin brings death and shame,
For ev'ry one who claims God's name,
It festers sore within our soul,
Until confessed, we are not whole! –CGP

Impulse and impatience are the assassins of faith. Patience trusts God with obedience. *"Let Patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. They that wait upon (trust) the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."* Impatience throws us headlong into the pit of sin and death when we fail to wait on God!

"Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass." Psalms 37:5 KJV