

Fullness Received

Lesson 12 – Teacher's Guide

1. First John 1:9 has been traditionally taught that every time we sin, we have to confess it in order to receive forgiveness. If we have to confess every sin before it's forgiven, nobody could retain their salvation. This just can't be what it means.
2. First John 1:9 refers to when we first come to the Lord. This verse instructs the unbeliever to be born again, not the believer to confess every sin all the time. We confess that we're a sinner in need of forgiveness and are cleansed from all unrighteousness by receiving our brand-new, born-again spirits.
3. First John 1:9 can also mean cleansing the effects of sin from a believer's soul and body. Our spirits aren't affected by sin, but our souls and bodies are. Sin gives the devil a legal right to work his death into our lives because we yielded ourselves to him (Rom. 6:16). By confessing, we take the salvation, the forgiveness, the holiness, and the righteousness that's already a reality in our spirits, and which never fluctuated when we failed, and draw it out into our bodies and souls. This literally drives the devil out and takes his place away because the enemy no longer has rights and privileges in our lives once we repent and turn away from what we've done.

1. How has 1 John 1:9 been traditionally taught? (Every time we sin, we must confess it in order to receive forgiveness)
2. A. What does 1 John 1:9 instruct the unbeliever to do? (To be born again)
B. What happens when an unbeliever confesses their sin? (They are cleansed from all unrighteousness by receiving their brand-new, born-again spirit)
3. A. According to 1 John 1:9, what are the results of a believer confessing their sin? (The believer's soul and body are cleansed from the effects of sin)
B. What gives the devil a legal right to work his death in our lives? (Sin)
C. How do we drive him out of our lives and literally take his place away? (By confessing our sin and turning away from it, we draw out the salvation, forgiveness, holiness, and righteousness from our born-again spirits into our bodies and souls)

4. Understanding our eternal redemption will cause us to live holy. We'll desire to live holy so that nothing will ever dull us or keep us from perceiving these great truths and His love. Holiness is a fruit—not a root—of salvation (Rom. 6:22). "Holiness" doesn't produce God moving in our lives, but our external actions of holiness are a result of understanding the righteous nature of our born-again spirits.
5. This gives us a deep abiding security in our relationship with God. We're His workmanship (Eph. 2:10). God loves us and we're never separated from His love (Rom. 8:35 and 38-39). In our spirits, God has already given us His full measure of love (John 1:16). We'll be so appreciative of what God has done that we'll live holier in our actions accidentally than we've ever lived on purpose.

4. A. According to Romans 6:22, is holiness a "root" or a "fruit" of salvation? (Fruit)
- B. Does holiness produce God moving in our lives? (No)
- C. What, then, are our external actions of holiness a result of? (Our understanding the righteous nature of our born-again spirits)
5. What does this understanding produce? (A deep abiding security in our relationship with God)

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My spirit was created in righteousness and true holiness when I was born again (Eph. 4:24). Then, the Holy Spirit sealed this purity into my brand-new spirit (Eph. 1:13). Any sin I commit now in my physical actions cannot penetrate or contaminate my spirit, because it's been sanctified and perfected forever (Heb. 10:10, 14; and 12:23). My born-again spirit cannot sin (1 John 3:9)!

I have received eternal redemption (Heb. 9:12). This doesn't encourage me to live in sin, but instead gives me stability in my life and relationship with God. I live holy because I want to, and if I don't, I know I'll give Satan and other people an opportunity against me (Rom. 6:16). Living holy is definitely more beneficial than living in sin!

God is pleased with me because of who I am in the spirit (John 4:24). When I do fall short, sin doesn't have dominion over me the way it used to, because I know now that God has already forgiven me completely—past, present, and future sin (Rom. 6:14). My spirit isn't stained in any way. Since God is a Spirit, I must fellowship with Him through who I am in the spirit.

My relationship with the Lord is constant. He's always loving me. He's always pleased with me—the real me, the born-again me, my spirit (Eph. 1:6). That's the part of me that God loves and that I've come to love. I'm not enamored with my carnal self and actions. I don't like some of what I see, do, and think, but I've come to realize there's a new me. In my spirit, I am thrilled with what Jesus has done, and I place my full confidence in that. Since I walk by the spirit, and not the flesh, I experience God's peace, joy, and life on a daily basis.

My life is stable. I don't feel like I lose everything every time I sin or fall short. I don't think that I need to be born again, again and start the whole growth process over. This concept of "one step forward and two steps back" is totally gone. When I do fail, I just turn from it. I repent and get back on track with what God's told me to do, knowing that I'm still who I am in Christ and infinitely more in my spirit than I've ever yet been able to appropriate and manifest. That's why I actively and aggressively continue renewing my mind to His Word.

Fruit unto Holiness

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

First John 1:9 has been traditionally taught that every time you sin, you have to confess it in order to receive forgiveness. If that's truly what it means, then this would put a tremendous burden upon you to deal with every sin. Religion categorizes sin, but God's Word is much more inclusive. Sin isn't only what you're doing wrong; it's also the right you failed to do. Some sins you realize; most others you don't. If you have to confess every sin before it's forgiven, nobody could retain their salvation. This just can't be what it means!

First John 1:9 refers to when you first come to the Lord. If forgiveness was dependent upon your confessing everything you've ever done wrong and failed to do right, salvation would be out of reach because you've forgotten too much. This verse instructs the unbeliever to be born again, not the believer to confess every sin all the time. It's how you first come to the Lord. You acknowledge your sin nature and separation from God in order to bow your knee and receive salvation. You confess that you're a sinner in need of forgiveness and are cleansed from all unrighteousness by receiving your brand-new, born-again spirit.

First John 1:9 can also mean cleansing the effects of sin from a believer's soul and body. Your spirit isn't affected by sin, but your soul and body are. Sin gives the devil a legal right to work his death into your life because you yielded yourself to him (Rom. 6:16). How do you repent of it and get him out? You say, "God, I was wrong and You were right. I sinned and gave Satan this opportunity. I repent!" By confessing, you take the salvation, the forgiveness, the holiness, and the righteousness that's already a reality in your spirit, and which never fluctuated when you failed, and draw it out into your body and soul. This literally drives the devil out and takes his place away. The enemy no longer has rights and privileges in your life once you repent and turn from what you've done!

If you understand your eternal redemption, you won't be emboldened to sin, but you'll be freed up to declare, "What a great God You are!" You'll want to spend even more time with Him. You'll desire to live holy so that nothing will ever dull you or keep you from perceiving these great truths and His love. Understanding your eternal redemption will cause you to live holy!

That's the way it should be! You shouldn't be trying to live holy out of fear of rejection and punishment; you ought to live holy as a result of your salvation. You should have "**fruit unto holiness**" (Rom. 6:22). Notice how it's a fruit, not a root, of salvation. "Holiness" doesn't produce God moving in your life, but your external actions of holiness are a result of understanding the righteous nature of your born-again spirit.

Never Separated from His Love!

This has changed my life! It's given me a deep abiding security in my relationship with God because I know He loves me! In fact, He loves me infinitely more than I've ever yet perceived. After the warm feelings of my miraculous encounter with God subsided (because of my actions), I thought, *Well, He loved me at one time, but I'm not sure He still loves me now, because I just don't feel worthy.* Then I came to realize that my born-again spirit is righteous and holy. I recognized that God looks at me Spirit to spirit, and He loves the born-again part of me!

I'm His workmanship, "**created in Christ Jesus unto good works**" (Eph. 2:10). In my spirit, I'm perfect and pure. God loves me and I'm never separated from His love. This sheds new light on:

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?...For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor

powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom. 8:35 and 38-39).

In my spirit, God has already given me His full measure of love.

“And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace” (John 1:16).

I’m full of God. One-third of me is wall-to-wall Holy Spirit! And if you’re born again, all these things are true of you too!

This knowledge will impact your life and make you feel so pure. You’ll be so appreciative of what God has done that you’ll live holier in your actions accidentally than you’ve ever lived on purpose!

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Lesson 12 – Outline

1. First John 1:9 has been traditionally taught that every time you sin, you have to confess it in order to receive forgiveness.

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

- A. If you have to confess every sin before it's forgiven, nobody could retain their salvation.
 - B. This just can't be what it means.
2. First John 1:9 refers to when you first come to the Lord.
 - A. This verse instructs the unbeliever to be born again, not the believer to confess every sin all the time.
 - B. You confess that you're a sinner in need of forgiveness and are cleansed from all unrighteousness by receiving your brand-new, born-again spirit.
 3. First John 1:9 can also mean cleansing the effects of sin from a believer's soul and body.
 - A. Your spirit isn't affected by sin, but your soul and body are.
 - B. Sin gives the devil a legal right to work his death into your life because you yielded yourself to him (Rom. 6:16).
 - C. By confessing, you take the salvation, the forgiveness, the holiness, and the righteousness that's already a reality in your spirit, and which never fluctuated when you failed, and draw it out into your body and soul.
 - D. This literally drives the devil out and takes his place away, because he no longer has rights and privileges in your life once you repent and turn away from what you've done.
 4. Understanding your eternal redemption will cause you to live holy.
 - A. You'll desire to live holy so that nothing will ever dull you or keep you from perceiving these great truths and His love.
 - B. Holiness is a fruit—not a root—of salvation (Rom. 6:22).
 - C. “Holiness” doesn't produce God moving in your life, but your external actions of holiness are a result of understanding the righteous nature of your born-again spirit.
 5. This has given me a deep abiding security in my relationship with God.

A. I'm His workmanship.

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them” (Eph. 2:10).

B. God loves me and I'm never separated from His love.

“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?...For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom. 8:35 and 38-39).

C. In my spirit, God has already given me His full measure of love.

“And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace” (John 1:16).

D. You'll be so appreciative of what God has done that you'll live holier in your actions accidentally than you've ever lived on purpose.

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Lesson 12 – Discipleship Questions

1. What does Ephesians 4:24 reveal that our born-again spirits were created in?
2. According to Ephesians 1:13, what did the Holy Spirit do with this purity the instant we believed?
3. Read Hebrews 10:10, 14; and 12:23. Can the sin we commit now in our physical actions penetrate or contaminate our born-again spirits?
4. According to 1 John 3:9, can our born-again spirits sin?
5. What does Hebrews 9:12 reveal about the redemption Christ obtained for us?
 - A. It's temporary.
 - B. It's eternal.
 - C. It's contingent.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
6. According to John 4:24, how does God see us?
7. Ephesians 1:6 says that we are?
8. What part of us is in the beloved?
9. According to 1 John 1:9, what is our part?
10. What is God's part?
11. Who is 1 John 1:9 primarily directed toward?
12. What happens when an unbeliever confesses their sins and repents?
13. What happens when a believer confesses their sins and repents?
14. Notice the word "whom" in Romans 6:16. According to this verse, to whom can we be servants?

15. If we yield ourselves to sin, whom are we serving?
16. What fruit does this produce in our lives?
17. If we yield ourselves to obedience, whom are we serving?
18. According to Romans 6:16, what fruit does this produce in our lives?
19. Fill in the blanks of the following personal confession based on Ephesians 2:10. I am God's _____, created in Christ Jesus unto _____, which God hath before ordained that I should _____ in them.
20. According to Romans 8:35 and 38-39, is there any external person or thing that can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord?
21. In John 1:16, whose fullness have we received?
22. How much of His fullness does this verse reveal we have received?
 - A. Some.
 - B. Much.
 - C. All.
 - D. None.
23. Fill in the blanks of this personal confession based on John 1:16 and Colossians 2:9-10. I have received _____ of the fullness of Jesus Christ. In Him, I am _____. I'm full of God. One-third of me is wall-to-wall Holy Spirit! Hallelujah!

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Lesson 12 – Answer Key

1. Righteousness and true holiness.
2. He sealed it.
3. No.
4. No.
5. B. It's eternal.
6. Spirit to born-again spirit.
7. Accepted in the beloved.
8. Our spirits.
9. To confess our sins.
10. To forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
11. Unbelievers.
12. God forgives them their sins and cleanses them from all unrighteousness by giving them a brand-new, born-again spirit.
13. We draw out into our bodies and souls the forgiveness, holiness, and righteousness already present in our born-again spirits, which takes away the devil's place and drives him out of our lives.
14. Either God or Satan.
15. Satan.
16. Death.

17. God.
18. Righteousness (a.k.a. external actions of holiness; see also verse 22).
19. Workmanship, good works, walk.
20. No.
21. Christ's.
22. C. All.
23. All, complete.

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Lesson 12 – Scriptures

“And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness” (Eph. 4:24).

“In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise” (Eph. 1:13).

“By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all...For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified” (Heb. 10:10 and 14)

“To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect” (Heb. 12:23).

“Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God” (1 John 3:9).

“Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us” (Heb. 9:12).

“Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?” (Rom. 6:16)

“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth” (John 4:24).

“For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace” (Rom. 6:14).

“To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved” (Eph. 1:6).

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

“But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life” (Rom. 6:22).

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them” (Eph. 2:10).

“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?...For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom. 8:35 and 38-39).

“And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace” (John 1:16).