



# Sinful Imperfection??

## 1 John 1:1-10

The Bible strongly refutes the notion of **sinless perfection**: “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us” (1 John 1:8; compare

1:10). And yet many believers go to the other erroneous extreme, holding to a view which might be described as **sinful imperfection**. The following statements represent this latter view, and each one is answered by the Scriptures:

(1) “I can’t help but sin.” Of ourselves this is true, but “(our) help cometh from the LORD....I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me” (Ps. 121:2; Phil. 4:13).

(2) “Sin is a necessary part of the Christian life.” No, it’s an abnormal part: “How shall we, that [have died] to sin, live any longer therein?” (Rom. 6:2).

(3) “I’m bound to sin.” Has not Christ set us free? “If the Son shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed” (John 8:36).

(4) “Because of the temptations around us every day, sin is inescapable.” Has not our faithful God made “a way to escape”? (1 Cor. 10:13)

(5) “We cannot avoid sin.” If so, why did God command us to “eschew [avoid] evil” (1 Pet. 3:11), even as did Job (Job 1:1)?

(6) “The Christian should expect to fail daily and to fall into sin.” No, we should realize that since we have been “made free from sin, [we] became the servants of righteousness” (Rom. 6:18).

Our Saviour bore our sins in His own body “that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness” (1 Pet. 2:24). In the morning I can pray, “Lord, I thank You that I need not sin (1 John 2:1a). Christ is my victory. In the evening I can say, “Lord, I thank You that I have an Advocate, Christ Jesus the Righteous One” (1 John 2:1b).

~George Zeller: [www.middletonbiblechurch.org](http://www.middletonbiblechurch.org)



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