

# Biblical Addiction

True Hope in the Bondage of Slavery



# The Nature of Sin

Romans 1:29-32 - <sup>29</sup> They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, <sup>30</sup> slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, <sup>31</sup> foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. <sup>32</sup> Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

- Sin is offensive to a righteous and holy God
- I Thessalonians 4:7-8
- We sin when we do not love God as our supreme treasure
- Matthew 22:37-39
- Matthew 6:21
- We sin when we chase after things other than God for our fulfillment, joy, satisfaction, hope, comfort, and relief
- I John 2:16
- James 1:14-15

# Sin as Idol Worship

1 Corinthians 6:9-10 - <sup>9</sup>Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, <sup>10</sup>nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

- We worship idols when we replace God with lesser things as our treasure
- Romans 1:21-23
- Philippians 3:18-19
- When we worship something, we willingly submit ourselves as slaves to the object of our worship
- Revelation 13:4

## Slavery to Sin

- Addiction is slavery to sin
- 2 Peter 2:19
- John 8:34
- Romans 6:16-21
- We try to make our sin sound better than it is by softening our language and redefining biblical terms
- When we forget the seriousness of sin, we stop depending on Jesus and worshiping Him rightly
- Psalm 32:5

Titus 3:3 - <sup>3</sup> For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.

# Hope

John 4:13-14- <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

- Real hope and our only hope is found in Jesus
- Luke 4:18-19
- The great physician came to save us and heal us from our sins
- Mark 2:16-17

# Freedom

Colossians 2:6-8 - <sup>6</sup> Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, <sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. <sup>8</sup> See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.

- Jesus frees us from our slavery to sin
- Romans 6:2b-15
- Jesus frees us from our old self and makes our new self alive with Him
- Our new selves, born of God and abiding in Christ, are no longer characterized by lives of sin. We seek purification.
- I John 3:3-9

## Questions to Consider

- How do you redefine or soften your sin?
- Where do you truly turn for joy, comfort, relief, and hope?
- In what ways do you need to realize the freedom that Christ died to give you?

1 Peter 2:16 - <sup>16</sup> Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.