

# God's Love & Human Sentiment

by Oswald Chambers

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*The sermon emphasizes the reality of sin, its consequences, and the solution to sin through Jesus Christ's redemption and forgiveness.*

**Scripture:** Isaiah 53:3, John 16:8, Romans 5:1, Galatians 1:15, James 2:10

**Topics:** "Sin And Redemption", "Holy Conviction"

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## Description

Oswald Chambers delves into the profound understanding of sin and its impact on humanity, emphasizing the need to recognize sin as a fact, not just a defect, and the crucial choice between letting sin or God rule in our lives. He highlights the significance of Jesus Christ's sacrifice in dealing with the disposition of sin, which is rooted in self-realization and claiming the right to oneself. Chambers also explores the depth of conviction of sin by the Holy Ghost, leading to a transformative relationship with God through forgiveness and identification with Christ.

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## Transcript

"A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. Isaiah 53:3.

Oswald Chambers: "We are not acquainted with grief in the way in which Our Lord was acquainted with it; we endure it, we get through it, but we do not become intimate with it.

"At the beginning of life we do not reconcile ourselves to the fact of sin. We take a rational view of life and say that a man by controlling his instincts, and by educating himself, can produce a life which will slowly evolve into the life of God. But as we go on, we find the presence of something which we have not taken into consideration, viz., sin, and it upsets all our calculations.

"Sin has made the basis of things wild and not rational. We have to recognize that sin is a fact, not a defect; sin is red-handed mutiny against God. Either God or sin must die in my life. The New Testament brings us right down to this one issue. If sin rules in me, God's life in me will be killed; if God rules in me, sin in me will be killed. There is no possible ultimate but that. The climax of sin is that it crucified Jesus Christ, and what was true in the history of God on earth will be true in your history and in mine. In our mental outlook we have to reconcile ourselves to the fact of sin as the only explanation as to why Jesus Christ came, and the explanation of the grief and sorrow in life." (June 23)

"Wherefore as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." Romans 5:1

"The Bible does not say that God punished the human race for one man's sin; but that the disposition of sin, viz., my claim to my right to myself, entered into the human race by one man, and that another Man took on Him the sin of the human race and put it away (Heb. 9:26)--an infinitely profounder revelation.

"The disposition of sin is not immorality and wrong-doing, but the disposition of self-realization--I am my own god. This disposition may work out in decorous morality or in indecorous immorality, but it has the one basis, my claim to my right to myself....

"The condemnation is not that I am born with a heredity of sin, but if when I realize Jesus Christ came to deliver me from it, I refuse to let Him do so.... 'And this is the judgment' (the critical moment) 'that the light is come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the light.'" (October 5)

"And when He is come, He will convict the world of sin..." John 16:8

"Very few of us know anything about conviction of sin; we know the experience of being disturbed because of having done wrong things; but conviction of sin by the Holy Ghost blots out every relationship on earth and leaves one relationship only--'Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned.' ...

"It is shallow nonsense to say that God forgives us because He is love. When we have been convicted of sin we will never say this again. The love of God means Calvary, and nothing less; the love of God is spelt on the Cross and nowhere else. The only ground on which God can forgive me is through the Cross of my Lord. There, His conscience is satisfied.

Forgiveness means not merely that I am saved from hell and made right for heaven... forgiveness means that I am forgiven into a recreated relationship, into identification with God in Christ. The miracle of Redemption is that God turns me, the unholy one, into the standard of Himself, the Holy One, by putting into me a new disposition, the disposition of Jesus Christ." (November 19)

"For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." James 2:10

"The moral law does not consider us as weak human beings at all, it takes no account of our heredity and infirmities, it demands that we be absolutely moral. The moral law never alters, either for the noblest or for the weakest, it is eternally and abidingly the same. The moral law ordained by God does not make itself weak to the weak, it does not palliate our shortcomings, it remains absolute for all time and eternity.

"If we do not realize this, it is because we are less than alive; immediately we are alive, life becomes a tragedy. 'I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.' When we realize this, then the Spirit of God convicts us of sin. Until a man gets there and sees that there is no hope, the Cross of Jesus Christ is a farce to him.

"There is only one way in which I can get right with God, and that is by the death of Jesus Christ. I must get rid of the lurking idea that I can ever be right with God because of my obedience--which of us could ever obey God to absolute perfection!" (December 1)

"When it pleased God, . . . to reveal His son in me." Gal. 1:15,16

"If Jesus Christ is to regenerate me, what is the problem He is up against? I have a heredity I had no say in; I am not holy, nor likely to be; and if all Jesus Christ can do is to tell me I must be holy, His teaching plants despair. But if Jesus Christ is a Regenerator, One Who can put into me His own heredity of holiness, then I begin to see what He is driving at when He says that I have to be holy.

"Redemption means that Jesus Christ can put into any man the hereditary disposition that was in Himself, and all the standards He gives are based on that disposition: His teaching is for the life He puts in. The moral transaction on my part is agreement with God's verdict on sin in the Cross of Jesus Christ."  
(October 6)

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