

## His - Sinner or Saint?

***Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To God's holy people in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus: 2 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 1:1-2***

Paul has dual authority, the nature of believers is two fold, and there is a double blessing for us as His followers.

***7 But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. Philippians 3:7***

***Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy... Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. 1 Timothy 1:13,15***

After we are in Christ, when we sin, we are doing something that is contrary to our new identity.

***A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him. Matthew 12:35***

Past failure does not disqualify us from future success.

***You build on failure. You use it as a stepping stone. Close the door on the past. You don't try to forget the mistakes, but you don't dwell on it. You don't let it have any of your energy, or any of your time, or any of your space. -Johnny Cash***

Religion says look what I can do, but righteousness says look what Jesus did.

***righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. Romans 3:22***

When God looks at you, He does not see your past failures He sees the perfection of Christ and your future glory.

We may say that we don't want to defeat this sin, but we can never say we can't.

***11 ...count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. 12 ...do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. 13 Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. 14 For sin shall no longer be your master... Romans 6:11-14***