

# Is Being A Good Moral Person Enough?

By Tony Melton

Some people think they can be saved and go to heaven by living a good moral life. They think that by visiting the sick and helping their neighbor that they will secure for themselves a home in that eternal city. While good works are important, there is one serious element they are overlooking--SIN.

Sin stains the soul of every man and woman. The Bible says: "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Also I John 1:10 says, "If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us." Is there a sensible man alive who would say he has never sinned? Sin is what alienates man from God. It is the great barrier that separates man from his Maker. The prophet proclaims: "But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear" (Isaiah 59:2). We can see man's dilemma. He is separated from God by sin, and man cannot wash away his own sins!

How can the good moral man get rid of the sins which blacken his soul? How can any man be cleansed of all the sins he has committed in the past?

1. First, we must believe Jesus is the son of God or we will die in our sins (John 8:24).
2. We must repent of our sins, which is the decision to stop sinning and start doing good (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30).
3. We must confess Jesus before men that He is the Son of God (Acts 8:37; Romans 10:9,10)
4. We must be baptized in water for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16; Acts 8:36-39).
5. After we become Christians, we must live holy and godly lives (Titus 2:11,12).
6. If we sin after our baptism or after becoming a Christian, we confess our sins to God in prayer (1 John 1:7-10; 2:1,2).

The Christians can do good works and please God, because when he sins, he can repent of his sins and confess them to God for forgiveness. This is what the good moral man cannot do, because he is not a child of God. How about you are you trying to go to heaven with a sin-stained soul? If you believe in Jesus and are willing to repent, then Jesus would ask you: "And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16).