

# Let's Talk CHANGE DEVOTIONALS



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## RESIDUAL IMPRINT OF SIN

Dr. Vanessa Dantzer Ussery | October 19, 2016

Most Christians know this scripture from memory, Romans 3:23, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God..." One thing is sure no one escapes a history of sin in their life. There isn't a human being alive that can claim they are without sin. Jesus is the only one who was without sin and therefore qualified to die in our stead to pay for our redemption.



Consider this. When we wash cleaning rags we may notice that some remain dingy looking and have stains while others come out white again. All of them have been placed in the washer and cleaned, but some of them still have the residue of stains left from cleaning. Once when this happened to me, the Lord shared an interesting thought. When we accepted salvation through Jesus Christ our soul was saved, not our flesh. The rags represented our flesh and He was showing how that some dirt left stains on the rags and some did not. It is true that all have sinned, however some sinful activities leave a residual imprint on our flesh that reminds us of our past. There are some sins committed that do not leave this imprint. It is not my goal to make a sin laundry list, so to speak. However, each of us has a different sin history. For example, a delivered addict should not dwell around drug users. The flesh has a residual imprint of that sin that remembers the experience although the soul is free from the addiction. Some have fallen back to their old ways once delivered because the imprint of the stain seems more real than the deliverance. We can allow the stain (memory) on the flesh to be irresistible. When God delivers us from sin we are delivered. The rags (flesh) may show the stains of the past but the soul is not contaminated once filled with the Holy Ghost.

Change your thinking today about yourself. He who the Son sets free is free indeed. The rags (flesh) may show the stain of your past sin, but you are set free. Do not let the evidence of your sin history destroy your new found freedom in Christ. It's a residual imprint of sin that has been forgiven and your soul is now anchored in Christ, therefore making you a new creature. One day this flesh will be done away with and you will step into your new body. What you see is your sin history, the past. You must daily walk in the now...Now are you a son of God and it does not appear what you shall be. But when He appears we shall be like Him. Walk in the newness of life and praise God He delivered you from your past.

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