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## Refusing to Repent

By Johnny Caruso on November 4, 2021

**READING:** Revelation 9

*“The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshiping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk, nor did they repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts” (Revelation 9:20-21, ESV).*

Sin is more than a bad decision made at the moment. Instead of acting, you react to the situation. Most of the time, sin stems from a pattern of behavior we are not addressing in our life. It is rare that we do not know something is sinful or recognize we are entertaining sin. For the most part, we know better. We just refuse to be honest with ourselves or those who will hold us accountable.

How many times have we told only half of a story about our actions to avoid being told we were in the wrong or at fault for what happened? The more we excuse our behavior or overlook where we are, the more our sin nature becomes ruler of our lives. This is what happened to the people in Revelation 9. Their sin did not happen overnight. It was a pattern of behavior developed over time. They avoided accountability, and it led to destruction.

We can move past our sin if we are willing to confess our sin to other believers and change our behavior. James 5:16 says, *“admit to one another that you have sinned. Pray for one another so that you might be healed.”*

God sent Jesus to heal all of us from sin, and His death on the cross paid for our sins past, present and future. I do not understand all there is about it but I believe it because God’s Word says it is truth. If you have asked Jesus into your heart, you do not have to live in sin anymore. If we admit that we have sinned, Jesus promises to forgive our sins and give us a new beginning.

**PRAYER:** Thank You, Father, that not only can we receive forgiveness, but we have the ability through Your power to be victorious over sin in our lives.

**TOMORROW’S READING:** Revelation 10

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