

"Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression." Psalms 19:13 KJV



If it was easy, it wouldn't require something from outside yourself – the gift of faith delivered by God's Word. *"Faith cometh by hearing...the Word of God."* That is; the attentive obedience that hears and obeys God's Word. *"Presumptuous sins"* are impulsive sins we excuse saying, "That's just how I am." If you are a believer, that is how you WERE! God's Word is adamant: *"If any man be in Christ, he is a NEW creature: old things are PASSED away; behold, ALL THINGS are become NEW."* Excusing sin is rebellious yielding to lust! Rationalize any way you like – it is blatant disobedience! Paul sharply addressed this attitude: *"What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?"* You can't yield to lust unless temptation occupies your thoughts. Thought determines deed. We have specific instructions concerning this. *"Whatsoever things are TRUE...HONEST...JUST...PURE...LOVELY...of GOOD REPORT...think on these things."* And then only *"if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise."* Satan uses mini-crisis's to preempt thoughts of Truth. Traffic lights; rude people, bitter believers, family fights, physical suffering, and the list continues. The flesh rises and he has a *"fiery dart"* of lustful thought for every occasion. *"Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked."* Without God's Word actively in our thoughts, we have no shield and temptations will seduce us, because we are not actively pursuing *"God and His righteousness."* Life's tests are passed only if we *"study to show ourselves approved unto God...workmen that [need] not...be ashamed; rightly dividing the Word of Truth."* Memorizing Scripture is an excellent way to hinder temptation. Write it down on a piece of paper, carry it with you, and use spare moments to pull it out and work on it. Do your successes lack real joy? Joshua, the captain of Israel was instructed, *"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt MEDITATE THEREIN DAY AND NIGHT, that thou mayest observe to do according to ALL that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have GOOD SUCCESS."* God's guarantee to those that study and obey Truth. *"If we walk in the light as He is in the light we have fellowship...The entrance of Thy Words giveth light."* Believe it or not!

Presumptuous sin is mine alone,
It's bondage leaves me all undone,
If I would prosper on this sod,
I must pursue the Truth of God. ~CGP

God offers only His own Word. Satan uses human reason and lust to tempt men. *"Every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."* If God's Word has no impact on your deeds, you are unbelieving. You've listened to the Serpent; doubting God, because you use your own fallible judgment to measure Truth. Failure is directly attributable to unbelief! *"Good success"* results from trusting obedience. Israel spent centuries in captivity for disobedience and so will you. *"Presumptuous sin"* brings nations to ruin. *"God is a Spirit...and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."* If sin wasn't "fun," we would avoid it.

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14 KJV