



# LIVE GUILT FREE

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## SPIRITUAL CASTRATION

By Richard Curren

*“Then the LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it.”*

Genesis 4: 6 - 7

We have all seen it at some time in our lives, the videos of people being led out of their church office or their parsonage in handcuffs. The bright young youth pastor with the computer full of child pornography. The church secretary with a home full of items unwittingly paid for by the church treasury. The deacon caught supplying the kids' beer after the game on Friday night. The pastor with a pregnant girlfriend, and a heartbroken family. Google any of these scenarios and you will have pages of site references that will both shock and sadden you as a Christian. “How could this happen?” we ask ourselves.

In the very beginning of the Bible we see God warning us as believers that “sin is crouching at your door.” Think what you like about Cain, but I know he was a believer in God. He spoke with, and heard directly from Him in his daily life. His parents, Adam and Eve, no doubt understood the harsh realities of the consequences of sin. So again we ask, “What happened?” My answer is the disease of incremental sin leading to the finality of spiritual castration.

I hope the term, spiritual castration, is not an offensive one to you as I did not mean for it to be. But I think the term is appropriate for my point today. It is illustrative of a phenomenon that has increasingly plagued the church in the modern era. More and more, I encounter believers who have become neutered by sin and are now ineffective for the growth of the Kingdom Of God. Let me explain.

As we all know from High School Biology 101, the act of castration is the removal of the testes of the male specimen in a sexually reproducing species. Removing the testes of the male renders him incapable of reproduction (just ask any of our cats if you still don't understand the concept of being neutered!). In the spiritual realm, Satan's goal is to neuter the Christian and thus make him or her incapable of reproducing, or even being functional as a witness to our world. If Satan cannot keep you from salvation, his next tactic is to remove you as an effective member of the kingdom through sin in your life.

Sin castrates us as followers of Christ because it is that edge that allows Satan to keep our mouths zipped shut. We want to speak up, to speak life into someone, then up slides the demon to whisper, “How dare you speak up! You know what you are doing when you are alone! Sit down and shut up!” And so many do just that. They sit down and they shut up. They are neutered, complete spiritual eunuchs. Saved: yes, Effective: no!

## NEUTER YOUR PET TODAY!

We can defeat Satan in this plan though. We can neuter our Pet. Our Pet sin. At the opening of this devotion, I laid out some horrific sins that grabbed headlines and turned stomachs. I wanted to get your attention. Still, I seriously doubt that any of these people were doing any benefit to the cause of Christ, and any good they may have done was obliterated when the truth came out. Pet sin is more likely what we encounter on a daily basis. The “occasional” porn habit. The “innocent looks” at the office hottie. The “minor” tax cheat. The “little thing” we took home from work. The “white lie” we told the boss or our spouse. It starts there. Then it grows. The minute Satan sees an opening in your armor, he will strike. If I told you that you had a “small” termite infestation or “trace” of cancer, you would fix it immediately, whatever the cost. Sin is just as bad. It can cost you everything, including your voice in God’s Kingdom.

The next part may sound very harsh, but I have been accused of being as subtle as a bazooka, so here goes. If you aren’t willing to deal with your pet sin, I would rather you sit down and stop bringing shame upon Christianity. Jesus felt the same way as you see in the quote from Revelation 3:15. Because sooner or later your little secrets will grow, will be exposed, will bring shame upon you, and to the watching, unbelieving world at large, shame upon Christianity as a whole. Paul got pretty hot with the Corinthians when he addressed their sins. They were playing church, not being Christ’s Church. They weren’t addressing the sins within their own walls (Remember the son in adultery with his own mother! (1 Corinthians 5:1) Jesus laid it out for the Churches at Sardis and Laodicea in Revelation, calling them “dead”.

*“I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.”*

Revelation 3:15

*“I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of my God.”*

Revelation 3:1-2

Christ was fed up with neutered Christians even then! The Churches in Sardis and Laodicea, like their Corinthian brothers, were shiny on the outside, rotting on the inside. Riddled with sin, and thus, un-effective. The whole New Testament is rife with Paul, Peter, and others saying, “Walk the walk! You represent Christ”. Here’s the deal, we live in a world that lives to see the mighty fall. Fair or not, people love to see Christians exposed as hypocrites because true Christianity is hard. If it were not, there would be more of us. Defeating sin nature is very hard, almost impossible. That is why Christ came to die for our sins, because we couldn’t stop on our own.

## ALL IS FORGIVEN

Finally, I want you to remember this: sin, with salvation and repentance, is forgiven. There is nothing so great in your past, present or future that will separate you from the love of God. Nothing. That’s right, nothing. Satan’s final trick is to neuter you by reminding you that you sinned in the past, so you have no right to speak now. What an effective lie! It works terrifically on millions every day. Here is the truth: man may never let you forget, but, when you repented and cried out to God, it was forgotten, cast as far as the East is from the West! You overcoming the sin that held you once may very well be the testimony that encourages another one more time to trust in Him! And that scares the Hell out of Satan.



Richard Curren is the co-founder and President of Boundless Limits International and Live Guilt Free. Rick's passion is to speak and motivate others to live to their maximum potential physically, mentally, and spiritually. Through their events and publications, Rick and his wife Tanya are able to inspire others and show that each one has boundless potential to change our world. He is a former United States Army Officer. Rick serves on the Board of Directors for the So Help Me God Project as an Advisor and is a founding Board Member. With a passion for health and fitness, he is a Black Belt in Korean Olympic Tae Kwon Do, and serves as an Associate Instructor for Palmetto Martial Arts School.