Breaking Sin’s Cycle

• READ: Judges 2:10-23
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

• The Cycle of Sin:

• (Judges 2:10b NIV) …another generation grew up, who knew neither the Lord nor what he had done for Israel
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

• Q. Whose Fault Was It That This Generation Didn’t Know About The Works Of The Lord?

• A. It Was The Parents’ Fault
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

• **Three Things Required Of Parents**

1. Spend Time With Their Children
2. Work On Their Communication With Kids
3. Use Their Influence With Their Children
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

• STEP 2: The Judges Generation Was Swallowed Up By The Larger Culture:

  • (Judges 2:12 NIV) They forsook the Lord, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of Egypt. They followed and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them. They provoked the Lord to anger.
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

• This Was Supposed To Be A Time Of Conquest And Separation

• (Num 33:51-52 NIV) "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'When you cross the Jordan into Canaan, (52) drive out all the inhabitants of the land before you. Destroy all their carved images and their cast idols, and demolish all their high places."
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

- Today Christians Are Called To Be Separated Victors:
  - (2 Cor 7:1 NIV) Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.
  - (1 Pet 1:15-16 NIV) But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; (16) for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."
Breaking Sin's Cycle

• We Are To Root Out The World And Its Influence In Our Lives:

• (Rom 12:1-2 NIV) Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. (2) Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

• Because They Failed --- They Provoked The Anger Of The Lord

• The Lord Raised Up A Judge From Within To Deliver Them
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

• As Soon As The Judge Was Dead The People Would Revert To Their Wicked Ways

• The Next Generation Become Even More Corrupt Than Their Fathers
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

- The Lord’s Response To Them Was A Very Severe Form Of Discipline

- (Judg 2:20-23 NIV) Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel and said, "Because this nation has violated the covenant that I laid down for their forefathers and has not listened to me, (21) I will no longer drive out before them any of the nations Joshua left when he died. (22) I will use them to test Israel and see whether they will keep the way of the LORD and walk in it as their forefathers did." (23) The LORD had allowed those nations to remain; he did not drive them out at once by giving them into the hands of Joshua.
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

• He Was Angry With Them
• He Declared A Violation Of Covenant
• I Will No Longer Drive Out These Nations
• I Will Use Nations To Test My People
• I Will See Whether They Will Keep The Ways Of The Lord
• I Will Allow Those Nations To Remain For A Test That My People Have Been Failing Ever Since The Time Of Joshua
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

• Consequences For Failing To Follow:

• (Judg 2:3 NIV) Now therefore I tell you that I will not drive them out before you; they will be thorns in your sides and their gods will be a snare to you."
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

• Sin Has It’s Consequences
  • (Num 33:55 NIV) "But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land, those you allow to remain will become barbs in your eyes and thorns in your sides. They will give you trouble in the land where you will live.

• (Col 3:5-6 NIV) Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. (6) Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

• Sin Leads To Conflict And Snares

• Compromise Is Always Costly.

• (Judg 2:14-15 NIV) In his anger against Israel the LORD handed them over to raiders who plundered them. He sold them to their enemies all around, whom they were no longer able to resist. (15) Whenever Israel went out to fight, the hand of the LORD was against them to defeat them, just as he had sworn to them. They were in great distress.
• (Rom 6:16 NIV) Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey--whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

- The Sad Cycle Of Sin:
  - A Generation Forgets About God
  - They Do Their Own Thing
  - They End Up Trapped And Deceived By Satan
  - Result: Defeat Distress Affliction Oppression
  - They Call Out To God
  - God Raises Up A Deliverer
  - He Sets The People Free
  - They Don’t Remember God
  - They Don’t Make Changes
  - The Cycle Repeats.
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

• Lessons We Can Learn About Not Giving Place To The Cycle Of Sin In Our Lives

• In Your Life Don’t Allow:
  – ½ Truth
  – ½ Hearted Commitment
  – ½ And ½ Obedience
  – A Little Bit Of The World And It’s Philosophy

• The Little Things When Left Unchecked Can Bring You And Your Family Down
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

• We Are Not To Entertain Sin
• We Are Not To Be Entertained By Sin
• We Are To Throw Off Entangling Sin

• Heb 12:1 (NIV) "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."
Breaking Sin’s Cycle

• On The Continuum Between Hot And Cold Where Are You?

• Rev 3:15 (NIV) "I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other"
Breaking Sin's Cycle

• Accept The Challenge To Stand Up For Christ!

  – Don't Let This World Pull You Down To Their Level

  – Pull Them Up To Your Level