



Battling Unbelief: Defeating Sin with Superior Pleasure

John Piper

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No one sins out of duty. We sin because it offers some promise of happiness. That promise enslaves us—until we believe that God is more desirable than life itself (Psalm 63:3). Only the power of God’s superior promises in the gospel can emancipate our hearts from servitude to the shallow promises and fleeting pleasures of sin.

Pastor John Piper shows how to sever the clinging roots of sin that ensnare us, including anxiety, pride, shame, impatience, covetousness, bitterness, despondency, and lust.

Delighting in the bounty of God’s glorious gospel promises will free us for a less sin-encumbered life, to the glory of Christ. Rooted in solid biblical reflection, this book aims to help guide you through the battles to the joys of victory by the power of the gospel and its superior pleasure.

Battling Unbelief: Defeating Sin with Superior Pleasure Details

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Isaac says

4.5 stars. This is a really great book. Any follower of Christ will benefit and grow greatly as they prayerfully read and meditate on the contents of this book. Outstanding for it's practical focus on various areas of sin that we all fail in many times (e.g. anxiety, bitterness). Grab the audio book on audible and tune in while you wash the dishes, you'll be better for it.

Lucas Castro says

John Piper nesse livro inicia com uma tese a respeito da incredulidade: nós não cremos na graça futura de Deus porque preferimos crer nas promessas do pecado. Com isso, Piper apresenta oito pecados que nos enganam e que frequentemente temos de lutar contra eles. Sendo alguns: lascívia, amargura, impaciência. A abordagem do Piper é que devemos lutar para crer nas promessas do Senhor em Sua Palavra. Para vencer tais pecados, juntamente com a incredulidade que vem acompanhada, devemos crer nos prazeres que provém das promessas do Senhor, onde há plenitude de alegria e delícias perpétuas. Não devemos acreditar nas promessas do pecado, pois esses (os pecados) nunca cumprem o que prometem. Eles não nos tornam felizes ou estáveis, ao contrário, geram tristeza e afastamento. Daquele que é a fonte da alegria: Cristo! Me surpreendi com a abordagem de Piper sobre a incredulidade nesse livro, e me fez pensar em outra perspectiva sobre ela. Um dos melhores livros de 2018. Recomendo!

Norman Falk says

Después de "Piense" este es el segundo libro que leí de Piper.

Lo leí el año pasado y desde entonces de vez en cuando voy re-leyendo algunos capítulos. Este libro ha sido de muchísima bendición para mí vida y aplico su contenido todos los días.

Es un libro que tiene el potencial de revolucionar la manera de enfrentar los diversos pecados en la vida porque muestra como la teología puede vencer la biología.
Mil veces recomendado.

Sandy Wright says

Such an amazing book!

If you worry or get anxious this is the best book. Truth and explanation to what is really going on.

This is freeing and great for anyone

Jonathan Roberts says

The title of this book is a little misleading, it sounds like it's an outreach book, not what it actually is an explanation of sin and how to defeat it. The sub title really gives it plainly saying "defeating sin with superior pleasure". I highly recommend this book

James Blanchard says

Decent little book. Mostly taken from Pipers larger book Future Grace. Some of the chapters' conclusions seemed less clear than others.

Matthew says

Piper's books are excellent because they continually point the reader away from themselves and towards Jesus Christ and his grace.

This book is highly encouraging because it urges the reader not only to depend upon past grace displayed in salvation, which of course is incredible, but also lifts our eyes to focus on 'future grace', which God will show to us as we trust in Him.

Piper is real and practical about the difficulties of each of the sins he addresses. He gets to the heart issues behind the sins and how they spring from a lack of faith in God's goodness. Some of these sins are so prevalent and interconnected in my own life, that I can't be reminded of these truths enough. The chapters are readable and short, as the book is condensed from a larger book called 'Future Grace' which I plan to read soon.

Phillip Howell says

It's a short, accessible, practical and biblical treatment of how to grow as a Christian.

John says

Taken from the end of Piper's longer classic, Future Grace, and supplemented with new material, Battling Unbelief applies the power of faith in future grace to the fight against sin in daily life. Working of the proposition that, "unbelief in the promises of God (that is, future grace) is the root that sustains the life of these sins," Piper looks at how the promises of God help us fight against anxiety, pride, misplaced shame, impatience, covetousness, bitterness, despondency, and lust.

In a time where (joyfully) the theology of the cross has been rediscovered and celebrated, this book is a

helpful reminder that our only source of motivation to fight sin, is not just passively looking back to the cross with a debtors ethic, but actively looking forward to and striving towards the consummation of the promises that Christ's life, death, and resurrection purchased for us.

Ezra says

Upon finishing, I put the book down and pondered for a good long while how I'd like to apply this book to my life. This is what I love about Piper: his own satisfaction and joy in God spills out onto every page. His serious love is infectious. It makes me want to follow Jesus harder, to treasure Him more, and to know Him and his word better.

Essentially, this book is all about how to fight sin by trusting in God and His precious promises. Piper, in the classic Piper way, argues for superior joy in Christ as the proper method of sin-slaying, using the 'Sword of the Spirit', God's word.

A thoroughly good book on fighting sin by trusting God. Massively recommended.

Cindy says

I highly recommend this book for all people. John Piper is used by God as a voice calling out His great love and grace He so desires to pour out on His Creation, human beings. I like the size of this book, not overpowering, and right to the meat of his goal to share the way to battle unbelief and why.

"Our moral sense says this evil cannot be ignored, and the Word of God says we must forgive."

"If you Hold a grudge, you doubt the Judge."

"All sin will be avenged-severely and thoroughly and justly. Either in hell, or at the cross."

"We fight to be satisfied with all that God is for us in Jesus that temptation to sin loses its power over us."

"Serving God is not payback, but more receiving. Moment by moment, as we bank on ever-arriving future grace, we go deeper and deeper into glorious debt."

Just reading the titles of each section of this book gives you a deeper understanding of how and why not to doubt the greatness of God. In the area of our time, all the disease, natural disaster, the poor and hungry, the neglected and abused, Christians can quickly start to doubt, and thus others begin to doubt our Faith and our Savior. John Piper illustrates the freedom from such doubt using Biblical applications of Scripture. John Piper did an excellent job of narrowing down his first book Future Grace to give us Battling Unbelief.

Awesome Book!!!

Mindy Denigan says

John Piper again evidences the wisdom of the Puritans in addressing issues of the heart. His expounding on the definitions of various heart attitudes and laying them bare for what they are, namely unbelief, is both a

challenge to my heart as well as a breath of fresh air to remove staleness in my walk with the Lord. Mind you, we can sometimes smell the mold growing in a space for a moment, only to have the olfactory nerve be overwhelmed and the smell is no longer so evident. However, the odor, faint though it may be, is still present. Sinful attitudes of the heart are much the same way. We may not be aware that our words of murmuring and disillusionment are truly sinful at the core, yet such a heart truly is one dominated by unbelief. Piper is pastoral in his tone, fully desiring that his reader grab hold of God's faithfulness, love, compassion. I am being challenged all the more to trust God's grace for today, a powerful grace which redeemed me in the past and will sustain me until glory.

João Paulo Müller Mamede says

Great book that shows to us how many of daily challenges from the flesh can be won through the Word of God and by faith in future grace. The lack of faith is the key to many disasters of sin, since one may try to find happiness in the brief pleasure of carnal desires than in the contentment in the promises of the glorious God!

Sara says

4.5 stars.

A practical and refreshing study of faith in future grace. Lots of gems here.

Bekah says

Excellent read. A lot to think on though. I believe it's one I'll have to leave out & refer back to often!
