



**IF WE SAY THAT WE HAVE NO SIN, WE  
DECEIVE OURSELVES, AND THE TRUTH  
IS NOT IN US.**

**1JOHN 1:8**

Rev. John Musa Lakor

This letter was written by John to **shepherd a flock**:  
He wanted to deal with some **false teaching**:

The phrase '*if we say*' is used 7 times to expose a lie or false belief

- 1 John 1:6 = false **fellowship**
- 1 John 1:8 = false **sanctity**
- 1 John 1:10 = false **righteousness**
- 1 John 2:4 = false **allegiance**
- 1 John 2:6 = false **spirituality**
- 1 John 4:20 = false **love to God**

“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,  
and the truth is not in us.”

The expression “**have...**” denotes the experience of possession of a virtue(s); sensation, desire, emotion, intellect, fault, defect, spiritual faculty like.

- *To have life, is greater than the act of living*
- *To have sorrow, is more than to be sorrowful*
- *To have faith, is stronger than to believe*

**“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,  
and the truth is not in us.”**

**They are saying in the strongest way possible:**

**We ‘have no’ sin.**

**Not that they do not just commit sins.**



What is **Sin**?

**“Sin” is missing the mark.**

“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,  
and the truth is not in us.”

Sin cannot continue being a lifestyle choice if we  
have surrendered our lives to Jesus – (as Lord)  
(Romans 10:9; Colossians 2:6).

We have the hope that the power of God is at  
work in us to “make us more and more like him as  
we are changed into his glorious image”  
(2 Corinthians 3:18, NLT).