

# **Let The Bible Speak Series**

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## **The Nature of Sin**

To begin with, we need to realize that

### **1. Sin is transgression:**

Romans 5:14 "Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned, after the similitude of Adams transgression, who is the figure of him that is come." Adam was a sinner because he transgressed God's law. Transgressing is going beyond the law. It is violating the commandments of God.

1 Timothy 2:14 ...regarding Eve, the scripture says "the woman being deceived was in the transgression. Hence when we sin, we transgress the law of God, and are therefore transgressors before God.

### **2. Sin is error:**

A departure from the right whether morally or doctrinally. In James 5:20 we read "Let him know, that he which converteth a sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death and shall hide a multitude of sins." Again in 1 Timothy 4:1 "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils." All sin is error. It is in violation of the law of God.

### **3. Sin is missing the mark, a failure to attain the divine standard:**

Under the law, the Jewish people had to tithe. In Malachi 3:8 "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say wherein have we robbed thee? in tithes and offerings." Israel missed the mark by failing to do what they had been commanded. That is sin. We miss the mark of God's word when we sin. We can do so by going beyond what is written or falling short of what God requires.

### **4. Sin is trespassing:**

To trespass is to enter another's property without permission. When we enter God's property, that is go beyond what God allows, we are trespassing going where we should not. Deut. 29:29 "The secret things belong unto the Lord our God but those things which are revealed belong unto us and our children forever that we may do all the words of this law." We must be careful to never go beyond what is written. When we do, we sin.

### **5. Sin is lawlessness or spiritual anarchy.**

1 Timothy 1:9 "...the law is for the lawless and disobedient..." 1 John 3:4 "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law, for sin is a transgression of law." Including are all those who ignore, alter, neglect, belittle, or disobey the commands of the Lord.

### How We May Sin:

1. We may sin in thought. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." Proverbs 23:7

An old Chinese Proverb says:

We sow a thought and reap an act,

We sow an act and reap a habit,

We sow a habit and reap a character,

We sow a character and reap a destiny.

We must be careful of our thoughts. They can lead us to do things that destroy our character, leaving us guilty before God.

2. We may sin in word.

Jesus tells us in Matthew 12:36 that we will "give an account of every idle word."

James 3:10 "Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing." Many are careless about what they say. Sins of the tongue have led many into trouble in this life, and will lead many into eternal destruction in the world to come.

3. We sin in deed.

In Galatians 5:19-21 the Apostle Paul lists the works of the flesh. All who do such things sin, and if they continue in those sins, they will be lost. In fact Paul declared that they "shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

### Some Facts About Sin:

1. Sin originated with Satan.

In Genesis one and two we find the devil tempting Eve, who yielded, and ate of the forbidden fruit. She then gave it to her husband who also ate. The devil is spoken of as the father of lies (John 8:44). It was through him that the temptation to sin originally belonged.

2. Sin entered the world through Adam and Eve:

When tempted, as we have already noticed, these two violated the law of God by eating of the forbidden fruit. Romans 5:12 tells us that "For by one man sin entered the world, and death by sin..." 1Corinthians 15:22 states that "for as in Adam all die..." As a result of Adam's sin we all die. We do not inherit the sin of Adam, but we do suffer the consequences of it.

3. Sin incurs penalties of physical and spiritual death:

Spiritual death comes with transgression. Notice Genesis 3:6-10. We learn from these passages that Adam and Eve were driven from their garden home. Separated from God, they died a spiritual death. Separated from the river of life and tree of life they began to die physically. The scriptures teach us that "it is appointed unto man once to die" Hebrews 9:27. Romans 6:23 tells us that "the wages of sin is death."

4. Sin has no remedy, but the blood of Christ.

Under the law of Moses animals were offered as sin offerings. However the blood of animals could not take away sin. Only the blood of Christ can do that. See Hebrews 9:13-14 and verses 25-26. Our only hope is in the blood. There is no other remedy for our sins. Hence we are baptized to "wash away our sins" Acts 22:16.

#### We Must Overcome Sin and Secure Salvation;

The sinful man is put away. We are buried in baptism for the remission of our sins Romans 6:3-4 and Acts 2:38. Peter tells us "...that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature..." 2Peter 1:4. Through our obedience to the gospel of Christ we put on the "new man" and become partakers of the divine nature. John 3:5 speaks of the new birth. We are born again or anew when we become Christians, having our sins washed away.

Our sinful life is changed in the act of repentance. In John 8:34 we learn that those who commit sin are the servants of sin. We must stop serving sin. We must turn away from sin. That is what we do when we repent. God commands all men to repent Acts 17:30. To repent means that we stop doing that which is wrong. We no longer participate in the practice of sin.

Slaves of sin are in a lost state. Ephesians 2:1 "And you hath he quickened who were dead in trespasses and sins." Being dead in sin, we must come to Christ, undergo the new birth, and be born from above. We change our state in baptism. Romans 6:4 also verses 16-18 affirm such to be the case. In Colossians 1:13-14 we read "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son." As a Christian we are no longer the servants of sin. Our life is changed, and now we belong to Christ.

Friend, sin will destroy you. It will destroy your family, those you love. Awaken and realize where the path you now travel will take you. Repent, turn away before it is too late.