

## WHAT ABOUT SIN?

### WHAT?

What is sin?

There are several different words for sin used in the Bible: transgression, iniquity, error, sin, evil, ungodliness, disobedience, and lawlessness. Sin is the opposite of God. Sin is that which is opposed to holiness. King David, after being convicted by God of his sin of adultery, pens the words of Psalm 51. In speaking of sin, he says:

**Psalm 51:1–2** Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my **transgressions**. **2** Wash away all my **iniquity** and cleanse me from my **sin**.

**Psalm 51:3–4** For I know my **transgressions**, and my **sin** is always before me. **4** Against you, you only, have I **sinned** and done what is **evil** in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.

*Sin* means to “miss the mark,” and one commentator says, “to be short of the mark”

*Iniquity* is moral impurity. Sin is a condition, an inescapable state of being that causes us to rebel against God’s authority and to break His law. (Paul David Tripp)

*Transgression* is knowingly and willingly crossing boundaries that an authority has set.

The Bible speaks of sin as going against what God has told us not to do. This is referred to as a sin of commission. Then there is the sin of omission or failing to do what God has commanded.

**James 4:17** Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn’t do it, sins.

So, we sin by going against what God says, failing to do what God says, and also with thoughts that are contrary to the holiness of God.

**Matthew 5:27–28** “You have heard that it was said, ‘Do not commit adultery.’ **28** But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Scripture tells us both what not to do, as well as what we are supposed to do. Sin begins in our mind, resulting in our actions that are contrary to God’s commands and His holiness.

**Mark 7:20–23** He went on: “What comes out of a man is what makes him ‘unclean.’ **21** For from within, out of men’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, **22** greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. **23** All these evils come from inside and make a man ‘unclean.’ ”

### WHERE?

Where did sin begin?

**Genesis 1:31** God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Sin began with Lucifer, the most beautiful angel created by God.

**Isaiah 14:12–14** How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! **13** You said in your heart, “I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. **14** I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.”

We are reminded that sin is the ultimate rebellion against God. It is saying, “I know better.” Satan was attempting to take the place of God. When he fell, he took many angels with him that are now called demons. From there it led to the temptation of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. God gave them clear instructions in the garden.

**Genesis 2:15–17** The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. **16** And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; **17** but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will **surely die**.”

4) Sin brings slavery

**John 8:34** Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who (is doing: present tense) sins is (present tense) a slave to sin.  
**Romans 1:21** For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.

Many say they want the freedom to do whatever they want when in reality it brings slavery.

5) Sin causes break in fellowship

**Psalms 66:18** If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;

**1 John 1:9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

6) Sin hurts other people, the church, and my testimony

7) Sin brings discipline from God

**Hebrews 12:4-12**

Praise God for His discipline for it shows His love for us

**SO WHAT???**

Eternity is at stake!!

\*I need to come to faith in Christ!

**Acts 4:12** Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

\*When the Holy Spirit convicts me of sin, confess it immediately

**1 John 1:9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

\*Stay far from sin, get rid of the sin that so easily entangles my life, and focus on Jesus

**Hebrews 12:1-2** 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. **2** Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

\*Get to know God better

**1 Chronicles 16:8-36**

\*Don't do life alone!

There are Ladies groups, men's groups, combined groups, teen groups. Alone we can lie to ourselves about sin.

**Ecclesiastes 4:9-10** Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: **10** If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!