

Bible Doctrines 1



Session 8 - Hamartiology (*The Understanding, Inheritance, and Imputation of Sin*)

You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look on wickedness. Hab. 1:13a

UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLICAL CONCEPT OF SIN - *What is it?*

I. Common Words Associated with Sin - OT (left chart) and NT (right chart)

Word	Basic Definition	Examples	Word	Basic Definition	Examples
<i>Chata</i>	to miss the mark (implies the active hitting of another mark); deviating from the norm	Ex. 20:20; Jud. 20:16	<i>Kakos</i>	Bad, disease, moral badness	Matt. 21:41, Rom. 12:17
<i>Ra</i>	breaking up or ruin; wicked or calamities	Gen. 3:5; Jud. 11:27	<i>Poneros</i>	Basic term for moral evil	Matt. 7:11, Acts 17:5
<i>Pasha</i>	to rebel, usually translated transgression	1 Kings 12:19, Prov. 28:21	<i>Asebes</i>	Godless, ungodly	Rom. 4:5, 1 Tim. 1:9
<i>Awon</i>	idea of iniquity and guilt	1 Sam. 3:13, Is. 53:6	<i>Enochos</i>	Guilty (crime deserving death)	Matt. 5:21-22, 1 Cor. 11:27
<i>Shagag</i>	to err or go astray (as a sheep or drunkard)	Is. 28:7, Lev. 4:2	<i>Hamartia</i>	Inclusive word for sin	Acts 2:38, Rom. 5:12
<i>Asham</i>	guilt before God	Lev. 4:13, 5:2-3	<i>Adikia</i>	Any unrighteousness	Rom. 6:13, Jam. 3:6
<i>Rasha</i>	wicked (the opposite of righteous)	Ps. 9:16, Prov. 5:9	<i>Anomos</i>	Iniquity...meaning lawless	Matt. 13:41, 1 Tim. 1:9
<i>Taah</i>	to wander away (deliberately)	Num. 15:22, Ps. 58:3	<i>Parabates</i>	Transgressor	Rom. 2:23, Gal. 3:19
			<i>Agnoein</i>	Ignorant worship of false god	Acts 17:23, Rom. 2:4
			<i>Planao</i>	To go astray	1 Pet. 2:25
			<i>Paraptoma</i>	Falling away, trespass	Rom. 5:15-20
			<i>Hypocrisis</i>	Pretend or construe	Gal. 2:11-21

II. Summary of OT words

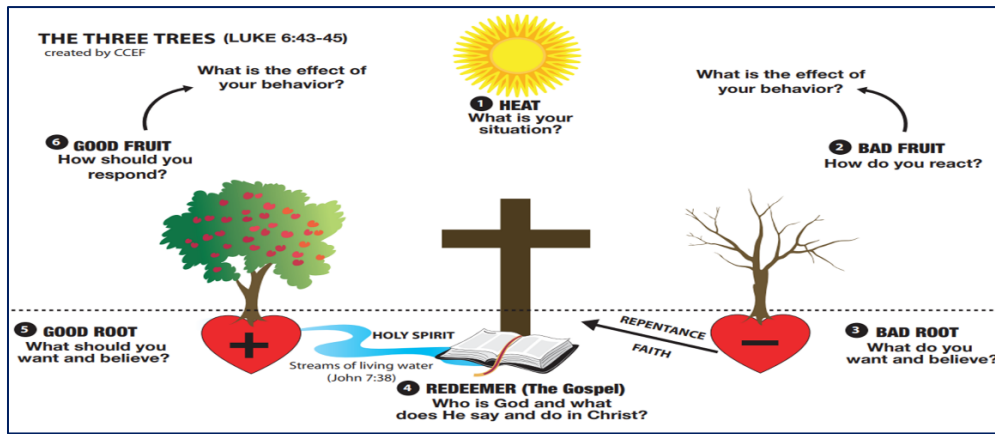
- Sin may take many forms and these would help an Israelite understand the nature of his sin.
- Sin is contrary to a norm, and ultimately it is *disobedience* to God.
- Sin involved positive and negative ideas, but the emphasis was typically on the positive commission of wrong...hitting the wrong mark.

III. Summary of NT words

- There is always a clear standard against which sin is committed.
- Ultimately all sin is a *positive rebellion* against God and a transgression of His standards.
- Evil may assume a variety of forms.
- Man's responsibility is definite and clearly understood.

IV. Comprehensive definition: Sin is any failure to conform to God's moral law in act, attitude, or nature. (Grudem, 490)

- Act- stealing, lying, committing murder
- Attitude - you shall not covet (Ex. 20:17); to hate is to murder (Matt. 5:22); non-Spirit-filled desires include jealousy, anger, and selfishness (Gal. 5:20)
- Nature - while we were yet sinners (Rom. 5:8); we were by nature children of wrath (Eph. 2:3)



V. The Nature of Sin

a. Origins

1. God did not sin and is not to be blamed for sin.
2. It existed in the angel's realm before that of man.
3. Gen. 3 - a willful and voluntary choice...answering 3 questions incorrectly
 - What is true?
 - What is right?
 - Who am I?

b. Sin is manifested in four forms

- a. As a disposition of heart: it is **intrinsic**, not acquired (Ps. 51:5, Jer. 17:9)
- b. As a **thought** or **intent** (Matt. 5, Ex. 20:17)
- c. As an **act** (John 3)
- d. As a **failure** or **omission** of duty...not doing what we should be (James 4:17, 1 Sam. 12:23)

c. Sin's Results

1. It never pleases God. The chief characteristic of sin is that it is directed against God - see Rom. 8:7; Ps. 51:4 (Ryrie, 212).
2. It always destroys the sinner.

d. Total Depravity - How bad are we?

1. Doesn't mean we are equally evil...or does it?
2. Involves spiritual death
 - ✓ This means a person is separated from God
 - ✓ The unbeliever has no fellowship with God.
3. Definition
 - a. Depravity - man fails the test of pleasing God (Rom. 1:28; Is. 64:6)
 - b. Total - it affects all aspects of man's being and it affects all people (Jer. 17:9; Eph. 4:17-19)

- c. Man is totally unable to do anything which gives him merit before God (Rom. 6:17, John 6:44, 1 Cor. 2:14)
- d. Man possesses a sinful nature, as an intrinsic characteristic (Eph. 2:3)
- e. Man possesses no means of recovery within himself (Eph. 2:4)

THE INHERITANCE OF SIN

I. A Definition:

- a. **Inherited sin is that sinful state into which all people are born** (Ryrie).
- b. Every person inherits a sinful capacity that causes and leads him to commit personal acts of sin (Romans 6:6; 7:17-18; Ephesians 4:22).
- c. Some call it...
 1. inherited sin - emphasizes that all inherit this sinful state from their parents going back to Adam and Eve
 2. sin nature - focuses on the fact that sin has corrupted our entire nature
 3. Original sin - Adam's original sin produced that moral corruption of nature which was then transmitted by inheritance to each following generation

II. Scriptural Evidence

- a. All aspects of man's being are corrupt (Eph. 2:3)
- b. Sin is innate from conception (Ps. 51:5)
- c. Every facet of man's being is affected by this sinful nature
 1. His intellect is blinded (2 Cor. 4:4)
 2. His mind is reprobate or disapproved (Rom. 1:28)
 3. His understanding is darkened, separated from the life of God (Eph. 4:18)
 4. His emotions are degraded and defiled (Rom. 1:21, 24, 26; Titus 1:15)
 5. His will is enslaved to sin and therefore stands in opposition to God (Rom. 6:20; 7:20)

III. The Penalty connected with Inherited Sin

- a. Spiritual death (Eph. 2:1-3)
- b. The Second death (Rev. 20:11-15)

IV. The Remedy for Inherited Sin

- a. New life in Christ (Rom. 8:1)
- b. The gift of the Holy Spirit which empowers believers to live free from the dominion of the old life (Gal. 5:24)

THE IMPUTATION OF SINS

- a. At conception God credits to every member of the human race the responsibility and penalty for Adam's sin (Romans 5:12; 5:18-19; 1 Cor. 15:22).
- b. Original sin is transmitted from one generation to the next and so on
- c. Everyone is born into this world a sinner (Rom. 5:12; 18-19)

PERSONAL SINS

- a. Who can say that I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin? Prov. 20:9
- b. For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Rom. 3:23
- c. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 1 John 1:8
- d. Any lack of conformity to the will of God in word, thought, or deed is an act of personal sin against the Lord (Mark 7:20-23; Rom. 6:12-13; 2 Cor. 10:5; James 3:5-6).

THE CHRISTIAN AND SINS

We believe every child of God is commanded to live a life of obedience to God and separation from evil. We believe that the beginning evidence of this life of obedience and separation is repentance from sin and that the power for such a life is provided by the indwelling Spirit of God.

In this, we confess and affirm that each follower of Jesus Christ has a holy obligation to:

- (1) Submission: Obeying God first and denying anything or anyone else that seeks to challenge His Authority. In doing so, we bring Him glory. (2 Cor. 10:3-6)
- (2) Separation: Living a life of repentance - that is, continually turning away from that which would offend the indwelling Holy Spirit of God and gratify self rather than glorifying God. (Rom. 6)
- (3) Stewardship: Living under the control and instruction of the Holy Spirit, realizing my physical body is His “dwelling place” made for His glory. (Eph. 2:21-22, 3:17; 1 Cor. 3:16-17)

