

Know Your Bible

CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

LESSON II

SIN AND THE BLOOD OF CHRIST

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God – [Romans 3:23](#)

This is the way the Bible tells us that man has failed. He is not able to stand before God. Every person who is able to understand properly is a sinner.

What is sin? How can I be made free from sin's terrible punishment?

1. 1) have sinned.

I. SIN

Many people think that sin is not very bad. To them it is doing something that other people do not like. They think it is being "naughty." They call some sins "diseases."

The Bible tells us that sin is something worse than that. Sin is something we do against **GOD**. [1 John 3:4](#) says, *whosoever committeth sin trasgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law*. Sin is when we break God's law. It is rebellion: that is, it is when we refuse to obey our Almighty King and God. When we sin we say, "God, you do not know what you are talking about." This is why sin is so serious. We are not just disobeying parents or breaking traditions, but we are disobeying **GOD**.

1. 2) 1 3:4 tells what sin is.

2. 3) "Sin is the of the law."

We can sin in many ways. We can sin by not doing what we should do, or we can sin by doing what we should not do. The Bible teaches that it is just as much a sin to **refuse** to obey the commands of Christ as it is to do a bad thing such as murder. Both will cause a man to go to hell.

1. 4) Is it a sin when I do not do what God tells me to do?

We now ask the student to get a Bible and read [2 Thessalonians 1:7-9](#) and [1 Corinthians 6:9-10](#). Please answer the following questions from those verses.

1. 5) [2 Thessalonians 1:8](#) speaks of those who obey not the .

2. 6) Those who know not will be punished with everlasting .

3. 7) In [1 Corinthians 6:9](#) it says that the shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

We can learn about sin from the sin of Adam and Eve. God put them in a beautiful garden with every good thing. Then God said, ***of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die*** ([Genesis 2:17,18](#)). But Satan lied to the woman and said, ***Ye shall not surely die***. She believed the devil instead of God, so she ate the fruit, then gave it to Adam, and he ate also. In that simple way sin entered into the world. They did not lie, or steal, or murder. But they **disobeyed** God's command. They decided that what God commanded was not good, so they took the fruit and ate it. This was sin! This was lawlessness!

1. 8) God told Adam not to eat of the tree of of and .

2. 9) said, "Ye shall not surely .

3. 10) Did the devil lie to the woman?

4. 11) Did Adam and Eve understand God's command?

The results of Adam's sin were very bad. You will find them in Genesis 3. They are:

1. 1. Woman would have pain in child-bearing and be in subjection to her husband-verse 16.
2. 2. The earth was cursed with thorns and thistles-verses 17,18.
3. 3. Man would die-verse 19.
4. 4. Adam and Eve were driven out of the garden-verses 22-24.

II. SIN BRINGS PUNISHMENT

How bad is sin? When I understand the punishment God will give for sin then I can understand how bad it is.

SEPARATION FROM GOD

Sin separates man from sinless God. ***Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear – [Isaiah 59:1-2](#).***

1. 12) What did Isaiah say separated them from their God?
2. 13) What caused God to hide his face from them?
3. 14) When will God not hear us?

We can easily see these things in the story of Adam and Eve. When they were in the garden of Eden they walked and talked with God. But after they sinned, they were driven out of the garden and no longer were able to walk and talk with their Father. It is the same with men today. Sin takes away the blessings of fellowship with God. Sin cuts us off from God. ***For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil – [1 Peter 3:12](#)***

1. 15) Are God's ears open to the prayers of all men?
2. 16) "The face of the Lord is against them that do .

ETERNAL SEPARATION FROM GOD

Sin separates man from God. If man will not turn from sin, he will be eternally separated from God. The separation which begins in this life will continue after death. This is what the Bible teaches in [2 Thessalonians 1:7-9](#). It says that those ***And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power.*** The sinner will NEVER be in the presence of the love of God—forever and ever.

1. 17) At the judgment, how long will sinners be separated from God?

The Bible teaches that every person will go either to heaven ([1 Peter 1:4](#)) or to hell ([Matthew 10:28](#)). If we are not with God in heaven, we will surely be with Satan in hell. To the wicked, Christ shall say, ***Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels—[Matthew 25:41](#). And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal***—verse 46.

1. 18) For whom was hell prepared?

2. 19) How long will the punishment of the wicked continue?

This world is bad enough, but suppose that all of God's blessings and goodness were suddenly taken away—No righteousness, truthfulness or love—only evil continually—no hope, help or grace. This is what hell will be. Yet hell will be filled with people who have **freely** chosen to disobey the commands of a loving Father. Jesus said, ***Enter ye in at the strait (difficult) gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat—[Matthew 7:13](#)***.

1. 20) Is the way that leads to destruction narrow?

THE SUFFERING OF SIN

If we are not saved from our sins, we will be punished after death. But we also suffer because of sin here on the earth. The devil tries to hide this suffering from us. He tells us that sin is harmless pleasure. Advertisements tell us that beer and wine make us happy. Magazines have pictures of women with almost no clothing on, and women are told to dress that way to catch a man. Gambling, drugs, sex outside of marriage—all of these things sound good if we listen to the devil.

BUT THE REAL FACTS ARE DIFFERENT! If we open our eyes we see the real results of sin. We see children without mothers or fathers, wives who have been beaten by drunken husbands, drug addicts committing horrible crimes to get money for drugs, criminals going to jail, people committing suicide, others getting terrible diseases because of their sins. Don't listen to the devil when he tells you about the pleasures of sin. There is another side. Those pleasures lead to a terrible suffering.

Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God—[1 Corinthians 6:9,10](#).

Sin is not pretty. Let the sinner think seriously about his life and about the judgment to come and he will be filled with sorrow and fear. **These** are the facts of sin.

III. SIN CANNOT BE INHERITED

You can now see that sin is something each person does. No one can commit sin for me. I do it myself. When God judges me, He will judge me according to what I have done, not according to what my father did.

1. 21) [2 Corinthians 5:10](#) says that in the judgment every one will receive the things done in his .

However, many denominations teach that sin is inherited—that is, that a baby is born already guilty of the sin of Adam. Her is an example of what they say:

HUMAN CREEDS

"We believe that through the disobedience of Adam and Eve the original sin passed to the entire human race. It is the depravity of the whole nature and the inherited sin with which the children are defiled even in the mother's womb."

—from the *Katkisasieboek* of the Dutch Reformed Church by G.B.A. Gerdener, p. 62.

But this is WRONG! The baby is not born with the guilt of Adam's sin on its soul. Here are three reasons why we know that babies are born INNOCENT, not GUILTY.

- 1. a. The definition of sin is "the transgression of the law." We read that in [1 John 3:4](#). But what transgression have little babies committed? To say that they have sinned is foolish. Sin is an act which comes after temptation and lust (strong evil desire.) You can read that in [James 1:14,15](#). Can a little baby be tempted and have evil desires?**
- 2. b. Jesus tells us that we must become like little children in order to enter the kingdom of heaven ([Matthew 18:1-4](#)). For of such is the kingdom of heaven ([Matthew 19:14](#)). Jesus would not say this if children are little sinners!**

3. c. The Bible plainly tells us that a man cannot inherit sin. *The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him*—[Ezekiel 18:20](#).

1. 22) Is the guilt of sin inherited?
2. 23) Does the Bible teach that a baby is born guilty of sin?
3. 24) What two things must happen before sin is brought forth? ([James 1:14-15](#)) a) b)
4. 25) When Jesus said, "Of such is the kingdom of heaven," whom was he talking about?
5. 26) Read [Ezekiel 18:20](#), which is printed just before question 22. Will the son bear the iniquity of the father?

IV. SIN AND THE BLOOD OF CHRIST

Who can save man from his terrible slavery to sin? One thing is clear: man cannot save himself without help. ***O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps***—[Jeremiah 10:23](#). Isaiah uses the figure of helpless sheep to picture sinful mankind as he says, ***all we like sheep have gone astray***—[Isaiah 53:6](#). Like sheep we cannot find the way back to the place of safety; we can only wander around lost. We have no defense against Satan. We need a Shepherd to lead us. That good Shepherd is Christ who gave His life for His sheep. ([John 10:11](#))

Other figures are used in the New Testament to tell us of Christ's mission. John said, ***Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world***—[John 1:29](#). He is called a physician who has come to heal man of all his soul's diseases ([Matthew 9:12](#)). Jesus said, ***For the son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost***—[Luke 19:10](#). Even His name showed His mission: ***thou shalt call his name Jesus*** (Savior), ***for he shall save his people from their sins.***—[Matthew 1:21](#).

1. 27) "O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in "
2. 28) "All we like have gone .
3. 29) Christ is the Shepherd who gives His for His sheep.
4. 30) Can man save himself without Jesus?

5. 31) What does the name "Jesus" mean?

WHAT JESUS DID FOR US

When John the Baptist said, ***Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world***, he was revealing the very heart of God's plan for saving man. Almost from the very beginning God commanded sacrifice. Abel's good sacrifice was taken from ***the firstlings of his flock and the fat thereof***—Genesis 4. The Passover sacrifice was an unmarked lamb, a first-year male. Sacrifices in the Old Testament time were made daily ([Hebrews 7:27](#)). ***And almost all things are by the law purged*** (made clean) ***with blood; and without the shedding of blood is no remission***—[Hebrews 9:22](#).

1. 32) Jesus is the of God who takes away the of the world.

Christ was God's **final** sacrifice for sin. The sinless Son of God came to offer himself **once**, and the effectiveness of this act was enough to take away the sins of the whole world for all time to come ([Hebrews 10:12-14](#)). This is why it was necessary for Christ to suffer on the cross. Without His death there could be no forgiveness. What a price He had to pay!

1. 33) What price did God have to pay to save us from our sins?

Remember this: Jesus suffered instead of us. We deserve to be punished in hell. But Jesus died for us; the sinless dying for the sinner! Every terrible thing which happened to Him—the mocking, spitting, slapping, whipping, the burden of the cross, the cruel biting nails into quivering flesh, the thirst, the thirst, the anguish, the pain—all of this He suffered for us. When we think of this, we can see the true picture of sin! Sin was destroying mankind. God, hating sin so much and loving man so dearly, offered up His own willing Son. How we should love Christ and hate sin! We should gladly obey all that our Saviour commands us to do. If we do not, He died in vain for us.

We can be saved! [Hebrews 5:8-9](#) says, ***Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; and being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him.*** In our next lesson we will study the question, "**What Must I Do To Be Saved?**"

Write here any Bible question you have:

First Name:

Last Name:

Email address (**You must enter this.**): [Privacy Policy](#)