

THE DOCTRINE OF SIN

TEXT: (Romans 6:23, NIV)

²³ For the wages of sin is death.

INTRODUCTION

1. “Don’t be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant” (Galatians 1:7, NLT).

I. ORIGIN OF SIN

1. “For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed” (James 1:13-14, NIV).
2. “Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry” (Colossians 3:5, NIV).

A. Begins in the Heart

1. “The LORD God commanded the man, ‘You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die’” (Genesis 2:16-17, NIV).
2. “When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened” (Genesis 3:6-7, NIV).
3. “The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?” (Jeremiah 17:9, NIV).

B. Without Excuse

1. “If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it” (Genesis 4:7, NIV).

C. Not Tempted by God

1. “When tempted, no one should say, ‘God is tempting me.’ For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed” (James 1:13-14, NIV).
2. “If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it” (Genesis 4:7, NIV).

II. SIN MANIFESTS OUTWARDLY

1. “Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit” (Matthew 7:17-18, NIV).

A. Sin Manifests in Worship

1. "For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life" (Leviticus 17:11, NIV).
2. "If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened" (Psalm 66:18, NIV).
3. "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting" (Psalm 139:23-24, NIV).

B. Sin Manifests in Your Prayer Life

1. "By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was commended as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead" (Hebrews 11:4, NIV).
2. "Pray continually" (I Thessalonians 5:17, NIV).
3. "Do not give the devil a foothold" (Ephesians 4:27, NIV).
4. "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7, NIV).

III. SIN RESULTS IN DEATH

1. "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" (Genesis 2:17, NIV).
2. "Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God" (Romans 11:22, KJV).

A. Spiritual Death

1. "Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden" (Genesis 3:8, NIV).

B. The Death of the Righteous

1. "Now Cain said to his brother Abel, 'Let's go out to the field.' And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him" (Genesis 4:8, NIV).
2. "Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them" (Romans 1:32, NIV).

C. Eternal Death

1. "Where 'their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched'" (Mark 9:48, NIV).
2. "Where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 24:51, NIV).
3. "My punishment is more than I can bear" (Genesis 4:13, NIV).

CONCLUSION:

1. "If your hand or your foot causes you to sin cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell" (Matthew 18:8-9, NIV).