

DEFINITION (Meaning)

Summary

Sin is any failure to conform to the moral law of God in act, attitude, or nature (1 Jn 3:4). In these ways we fall short of God's glory (Rom. 3:23) and break relationship with Him.

Old Testament Words

חַטָּא*

Chata - to hit the wrong mark

רָע

Ra - inferior, wicked, injurious

פָּשַׁע

Pasha - revolt, rebellion

עוֹן

Awon - crooked, iniquity, guilt

שָׁגָג

Shagag - to err, go astray, sin inadvertently

רָשָׁע

Rasha - wickedness, guilty

תָּעָה

Taah - to wander, go astray

New Testament Words

ἁμαρτία*

Harmatia - sin, missing the mark

κακος

Kakas - bad, moral wrong

πονηρος

Ponerous - evil, moral evil

ασεβεια

Asebea - godless, apostate

ενοχος

Enochos - guilt, worthy of death

αδακια

Adakia - unrighteousness

αναμος

Anomos - lawless, iniquity

παβατης

Parabates - transgressor, sinner

πλαναω

Planao - to go astray, wander

παρπτωση

Paraptoma - step over the line

HAMARTIOLOGY

THE DOCTRINE OF SIN

INTER-DEPENDENT

IMPUTATION OF SIN (Guilt through Adam)

"Imputation" Defined

A Latin term used to reflect the meaning of the greek word λογίζομαι - logizomai - meaning "to reckon", or "charge to one's account".

Three Biblical Imputations

1. Adam's sin imputed to all - Rom. 5:12-21
2. Man's sin imputed to Christ - 2 Cor. 5:19
3. Christ's righteousness imputed to believers - Rom. 5:12-21; 2 Cor. 5:21

Four Views of Imputation

1. No imputation from Adam. Each man is free and only guilty because of his own sin.
2. The tendency to sin is inherited from Adam. Each man is guilty because of his own sin.
3. Every person is seminally present in Adam and thus guilty.
4. *Adam is a representative of the human race and we are guilty because of his sin* - Rom. 5:12-21.

Objections Answered

1. Without imputation we would still be guilty because of our own personal sin(s).
2. Without the pattern of imputation of sin from Adam established the imputation of Christ's righteousness would be unfair.
3. The doctrine of imputation demonstrates both the wisdom and grace of God.
4. The doctrine of imputation does not deny personal freedom.

INHERITANCE OF SIN (Nature through Parents)

Scriptural Support

Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.
Ephesians 2:3b

Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
Psalms 51:5

Even from birth the wicked go astray;
from the womb they are wayward and speak lies.
Psalms 58:5

Extent of Corruption

Every part of our being is affected by sin. Our intellect, emotions, desires and will are corrupt. Our heart - the center of desire and decision - is desperately corrupt - Jer. 17:9. *There is nothing good in us that merits God's favor* - Rom. 7:18.

1. Intellect Blinded - 2 Cor. 4:4
2. Mind depraved - Rom. 1:21, 28
3. Understanding inhibited - Eph. 4:18
4. Conscience corrupted - Titus 1:15
5. Will enslaved - Rom. 6:20
6. Total Being Sinful - Rom. 1:18-3:20

Total Depravity

Sinfulness extends to each & every person (Rom. 3:23) and effects every aspect of his being (Rom. 7:18) so that nothing he does - either good or bad - merits the favor of God or meets God's standard of holiness.

RESULTS (Consequences)

1. Immediately - sin brings pain, alienation and conflict - Gen. 3:8-24.
2. Imputation - we are guilty and separated from God - Rom. 5:12-21.
3. Inheritance - We sin and are sinners - Ps. 51:5.
4. Death both physical and spiritual is a central consequence of sin - Gen. 2:15; Rom. 5:12-13; Eph. 2:1-3.
5. When a Christians sins his legal standing before God does not change (Rom 8:1) but fellowship is broken (1 Jn 3:21) & discipline is a response of a loving God (Heb. 12:6-10).
6. A believer living in persistent sin is in danger of physical death. One particular sin is not defined here (1 Jn. 5:16-17).
7. The "unpardonable sin" seems to be a specific case of malicious and willful rejection of the work of the Holy Spirit through Christ & attributing it to Satan (Mt. 12:31-32). It may have only been possible when Christ was on earth.

REMEDY (Solution)

1. The remedy for the guilt of imputed sin is receiving the righteousness of Christ through faith - Eph. 2:4-10; Rom. 5:12-21.
2. The remedy for personal sin is confession - 1 Jn 1:9.