

## Sin and Consequence (Wage)

Just what is sin? Where did it come from? How did it get into human life? How does it continue to affect civilization? Both the word 'sin' and the word 'wage' may be plural without using the terms 'sins' and 'wages'. This can result in serious Biblical misunderstandings.

Sin is a many-faceted thing, and as a result, it is hard to explain. It is even hard to answer specific questions about it, as you will see.

According to the Bible, sin is something that man does. It is activity that causes evil, hurt and harm. It is a *trespass* or transgression of some kind that ill affects someone. It may also be a *failure* of activity which ill affects the one who fails, as well as others.

Please note the difference in trespass and failure, because we want to correctly define sin in the Bible.

According to the Bible, sin is something that man does, as well as something that he does not do. Sin may be in man's talk, as well as his walk.

To say (talk) and not do (walk), is sin in the Bible. To know to do good and fail to do it is sin. To fail in your faith (what you believe) is sin. This is called the sin of unbelief in the Bible; it is the sin that caused Moses' church to fail at Kadesh Barnea.

To do right requires activity, but it also requires knowledge for wisdom to discern right from wrong and good from evil.

The Bible reveals two Gods—one good and the other evil. Satan is God's adversary who seeks to hinder God's purpose and pleasure in mankind. Both seek to influence man to do their will.

God depends upon man's faith for his pleasure and He trusts man to do good and fulfill it. At the same time his adversary is evil; one who deceives man to do his pleasure instead of pleasing God.

Sin is a word which involves God and religion. Right and wrong may define personal and social behavior, but sin is a religious word relating to God and spiritual issues.

We could say that sin has written the history of the human race. Any record of man's history is the story of sin with all of its consequences.

Historians and sociologists may have other words for sin, but evil and death are what human life is all about.

The Bible contains the record of just about every sin possible for man. Man's inhumanity to man is found in every civilization.

The Bible only reveals the history of man in northern Africa and the Fertile Crescent, but other sources tell us of much evil and harm to civilizations all over the world from the evil deeds of mankind to one another.

I want to point out to the reader that the Bible is unique. Sin in the Bible does not only refer to man's offense to man; but his offense to God, which may simply be not loving Him. The God of the Hebrews required faith and love for His relationship with humans.

This is the (sin) failure which broke the covenant that Moses gave the nation. The people did not know what had offended God. They assumed that it was their disobedience of the written text. This is correct in a sense, because God had warned the covenant people about failing to love and trust Him.

'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God' was essential for the children of Israel in the Mosaic Old Testament. But the very same commandment continues for the children of God in the Christian New Testament- thou shalt love the Lord your Father God.

### Original Sin

I would like to consider only what the Bible teaches about sin as opposed to what culture and tradition teach through Bible religion.

In the Bible record we find the word sin personified with character, like a person. Wisdom is also personified as creating the world. It is very important to understand this because the book we call The Bible claims to be the Word of God and this Word was made flesh in the person of Jesus.

In the beginning the Word made the heavens and the earth; later at Bethlehem the Word was made (Flesh) man.

The Bible says that wisdom created the world in which sin entered with its reign of death. The Word entered with a reign of life. This gives words personality and helps us to better understand Bible teaching.

Sin entered to rule the first family which God had colonized in Eden to have dominion over the new world. Sin is best understood by the damage that it does. In other words, it is fruit as well as seed. Sin is the seed and death is the fruit.

I realize that Adam and Eve were told not to eat of the knowledge tree because death would result. This is confirmed by New Testament teaching that the wages of sin is death. Knowledge is also the wages of eating from that tree. No physical death occurred until Adam and Eve lost access to the garden which God planted for them. God had planted a tree in the garden which provided everlasting body life. After they ate of the tree, He prevented access to it, causing their eternal spirits to depart a dead body.

We can see two trees planted by God for his creatures. Eating from one affects the inner man of the heart (psychic) while not eating of the other affects the outer man of the body.

I would like to examine the original entrance of sin into the spirit of man before the death of a soul occurs. This will enable us to see knowledge precede death. Both were wages from the same sin. Death for the body did not result from eating, rather from not eating.

The word 'soul' may refer to the seat of knowledge resident within the spirit, or the life of the spirit while living in the flesh. Moving souls are flesh bodies moved and controlled by a spirit within. Lost souls result when flesh life is lost. A spirit cannot move a lifeless body. When the body dies the spirit must leave it.

Adam and Eve ate of the fruit of the tree of knowledge. The first reaction to the fruit was in their spirit, not their bodies. They were ashamed of their nakedness and afraid that God would see them, but not ashamed because they saw each other as naked.

God knew they had eaten, not because he saw death in them but because He saw knowledge in them. When Adam told God that he was naked, God asked Adam, "Who told you that you are naked?" Here we see knowledge has preceded death.

Adam had always been naked but he did not know it until something in the fruit made him aware of it. Knowledge is something the spirit (soul) needs to live and move in soul life. More knowledge would be needed to provide and care for other souls such as

being a parent of souls. Carnal maturity requires carnal knowledge. Spiritual (mental) maturity requires spirit knowledge.

Knowledge is for the psyche- the heart- the inner man. Knowledge may consist of good and evil but wisdom is needed to discern between good and evil.

We can observe this phenomenon in human souls, but not in animal souls where instinct determines the psychic knowledge.

The knowledge tree made man like God; a god like his creator capable of activity for good. Now, however, he could be unlike God *and* do evil to himself, his creator, and other creatures.

History reveals the activities of this divine being (man) in sin and evil as well as in righteousness and good.

Man is the only soul that is born naked. He is also the only soul that God created naked. God provided Adam and Eve with skins from animal souls so they could commune with him again without shame. Physical things can clothe a naked body but a naked spirit can only be clothed by the Creator, who is a spirit. God, however, would not be clothing their naked children, as this became a parental duty.

The skins were not provided to meet a need for their bodies, but their spirits - the heart, the soul, the mind...where the shame and fear existed. The fruit did not affect the body, only the spirit.

*No clothing or shelter was needed for the flesh bodies in the garden or outside the garden in the original world of a perfect habitat for human bodies.*

However, there would be a need of a new habitat when the body died, because then the spirit would be naked.

While a soul lives, the flesh clothes the spirit with an earth-suit. When a soul dies, the spirit can no longer abide on earth. The spirit needs the body back to live again on earth.

Some religions teach that the spirit will live again in earthly bodies – even in animals' bodies. The Bible teaches that the Father of spirits will clothe his children in spiritual bodies, just as the Father of living souls had clothed His children in flesh bodies.

The Creator created human life, and then He gave Adam a 'womb wife', and seed, whereby he could procreate human life. That meant Adam and Eve

would be parents responsible for their children. They must plant a garden and provide for what they procreated, just as God had provided for what He created.

God would close His garden and no longer be providing for Adam and his family. After that time, parents must feed and clothe themselves, as well as the children they would procreate.

God had created Eve to meet a need in Adam's soul for companionship. There was not a need in Adam's flesh body until Eve was taken out of it. Once that occurred, both had a physical need for each other, even if they didn't want to procreate.

Eve first fulfilled a need in Adam's heart (mental) (lonely) - the inner man of the spirit. Then she became a continual physical need because she was taken out of Adam's flesh body to be a womb to multiply the human race. The womb served only to multiply the human race before sin entered. Afterwards, however, the womb (Eve) was necessary to preserve the species by replacing what mortality corrupted. Birth will multiply; death will subtract. Procreation must stay ahead of the wages of sin for the species to survive.

The knowledge of nakedness did not produce a body need; it produced a spirit need. The skins covered the shame and fear in the heart so they could walk (live) in the presence of God again.

We see the same thing when parents have to clothe a toddler to remove shame, fear, and guilt.

### **Original and Naked**

The naked bodies were clothing (habitat) for the spirit which God put in man to control body life. The spirit was God-conscious, but yet to be self-conscious.

Babies are not afraid due to lack of knowledge, while Adam and Eve were not fearful because of the presence of God in their spirit.

Adam and Eve were carnally naked before they knew they were naked. How can this be? Can truth and fact related to the outer man (flesh) precede the knowledge of it revealed to the inner man (spirit)?

A toddler suddenly becomes aware of nakedness and needs clothing to continue communion in human life. The fact is he was naked all along but did not know it. Where did this knowledge come from? Did

he eat or drink something or did someone tell him that he was naked? Is he ashamed before his peers or only before adults? Is he ashamed before God, like Adam and Eve? Obviously not.

Adam and Eve were created adults with full knowledge of the presence of God before they knew that their bodies were naked, while toddlers are procreated children without any knowledge at all. Adam and Eve had knowledge of God first, then knowledge of naked bodies. Children first have knowledge of their naked bodies long before they learn about God. Humans are conscious of the creation before they are conscious of the Creator.

Nobody told Adam and Eve they were naked, but would it have done any good for them to be told? Or, must they discover it for themselves? Would it do any good to tell a toddler that he is naked or is this something that he must discover for himself or herself? Is truth taught or is it learned by experience?

What can we suppose was in that fruit to affect the mind but not the flesh? Something gave knowledge to the spirit about the flesh concerning nakedness, which was the natural state of man originally, and still is.

Adam and Eve had looked at one another but never saw themselves as naked. They had also looked at animal souls with hair and scales but never considered them as clothed. Now, suddenly they are aware of something that was true from the beginning.

What was in the fruit to produce a higher state of consciousness for Adam and Eve? It appears to affect the brain with consciousness, precisely opposite to the effect of alcohol, which diminishes awareness and removes fear and shame.

How could some agent in the stomach affect the mental conscience to make them like God in knowledge of things that they did not know when they were created?

Many Bible students will not consider anything natural and physical in original sin, which they call the 'fall of man'. They maintain there was nothing toxic in the fruit, but rather in the act of disobedience, which is called sin.

There are many problems with this traditional idea of original sin. It would mean that God planted the

tree to tempt and test man's faith before he was morally conscious.

The narrative does not reveal any temptation in Adam to either eat the fruit or disobey God.

How can we define the knowledge that disobeyed from the knowledge received by eating the fruit? If nothing existed in the fruit to affect the conscious state of Adam's mind, then his knowledge of nakedness must have come from some other source. We know God did not tell him personally. Maybe God revealed it through nature naturally.

Other trees provide fuel for metabolic life. Is the tree of knowledge the only benign tree in the garden? Can we really say that it is benign when the fruit produced such an impact upon the psyche? Something made man to be like God. What was it? Was it sin or was it what he ate?

Did Adam pass from knowledge of good to knowledge of evil? Or, did he pass from ignorance to knowledge? Was Adam innocent before he ate, then guilty after he ate? Was he alive before he ate, then dead after he ate? Was he like man before he ate then like God after he ate?

God had told Adam he would die if he ate. Does this mean in his spirit, or in his body? Did Adam know what death was? How long after he ate was it until he died?

The serpent told Eve she would have knowledge like God concerning good and evil. This was confirmed by God to be true. God then told Adam and Eve their flesh would return to the earth from which it came, and He drove them out of the garden from the Tree of Life to die from degeneration. Are they dying because of the sin in eating or dying because God drove them out?

Humans were created with flesh bodies from the creation and breath from the Creator. They were physically naked, but did not know it until sin entered the spirit to reveal it.

God provided clothing for their naked bodies and drove them out of the garden to die from genetic corruption in metabolism. The tree of life could immunize them against senescence, extending flesh life indefinitely. But, the garden was closed.

## Knowledge and Sin

It is difficult to determine, exactly, what Adam knew before he ate. Apparently Eve was alone under the tree when tempted; then she took the fruit to Adam, who would have known where it came from and that he would die if he ate. But he had no way of knowing what death was like or when it would occur.

Why did Adam eat the fruit? There is much conjecture on this point. We know that Adam was not tempted like Eve was; neither do we find any pride, arrogance, or selfishness, as some suggest.

By looking at the Genesis account we see the entrance of sin into the human family of Adam. Paul reveals how this seed reigned in mortality until the seed of God reigned in immortality. In Adam, humans die. In Christ, humans live again, but first with a new spirit then a new body..

When we consider the New Testament account of Jesus being a 'second Adam', we are able to better understand the Genesis account of the first Adam.

Jesus maintained that his mission was far more than a prophet or the King that Jews were expecting. He spoke of being a savior for all of mankind by a resurrection, or quickening, from the dead.

The dead could pass from death to life through him, just as Adam had passed from life to death through sin.

Adam passed on death through natural birth while the second Adam passed on Life through Spirit Birth.

Adam opened the door for sin to bring death. Later, Jesus, the second Adam, would open the door for righteousness to bring life. But first, He had to taste the death of the first Adam. This occurred on the Feast Day of Passover.

Animal blood had always been shed on Passover even back in Egypt for redemption of the first born.

Animals cannot knowingly and willingly decide to die as Adam had done. Degenerating humans are capable of willingly laying down their lives, but this would only be giving the remainder of their life. They have no way of knowing how much life degeneration (sin) has already taken away.

All the family of Adam are going to die anyway, therefore such a human sacrifice would be giving that which would be lost anyway.

Knowledge and sin have a seed-fruit relationship just like that of sin and death. Sin is the seed of which death is the fruit. But, sin is also the seed of which the knowledge of good and evil is the fruit.

If knowledge of good and evil is the result of sin entering, then what was the knowledge by which sin was able to enter? Obviously, it was the knowledge of prohibition without the knowledge of consequences.

A child may know that he should not do something without any knowledge at all of what would happen to him if he did.

*Notice that Adam became like his father in knowledge only after he had sinned. Children become like their fathers in knowledge when they learn what the father already knew.*

The death which Jesus tasted was the consequence of the sin of ignorance in others, while the death tasted by Adam was the result of his own innocent ignorance in disobedience.

Isaiah spoke of Messiah as saving his people by knowledge. This related to Jesus' experience on the cross, not to intelligence or wisdom in His mind.

Adam knew Eve and she conceived. This also is flesh experience, not mental knowledge.

Jesus grew in spirit and body; wisdom for the heart and stature for the body. Was it by spirit knowledge or carnal knowledge that He saved His people? Isaiah said that salvation would come through knowledge. Obviously, he means experience - a spiritual experience.

The spirit may have knowledge without experience -like Adam before he ate and like Jesus before He died on the cross. We often learn from experience that which we did not know before.

A toddler doesn't know what his disobedience will cause until it happens. Jesus did not know what crucifixion was like until He tasted it. Adam knew the fruit was forbidden but he did not know what eating would cause until he ate.

When a child disobeys a warning his spirit acquires knowledge from the experience upon his flesh; but Adam disobeyed and nothing happened to his flesh; only his spirit suffered the consequence.

Jesus obeyed and His spirit suffered anguish, shame and fear while His body died from the trauma and

pain of crucifixion. His body suffered from the stripes upon it from the ignorant sin of his people. His spirit was forsaken by God when he tasted the death of Adam

The fruit from the knowledge tree did not injure the body of Adam and Eve; it increased knowledge to be like God. *Original sin had no effect upon the flesh but Cain's sin affected the flesh life of his brother.*

### **Sovereign Knowledge**

We can see far more from the original entrance of sin than the beginning of death. We see the spirit of man take on the likeness of God. We also see this higher state of consciousness enabling mankind to be a god capable of life without the Creator or, in other words, a sovereign creature having life within himself.

Like God, he can create and take control of his dominion and be sovereign. No sovereign wants another sovereign to violate his sovereignty. God gives sovereignty of soul to every soul and sovereignty of family to every patriarch and sovereignty of a nation to every king. Death will terminate all dominion because it separates the soul from its domain.

History reveals the failure of mankind to be like God, doing good; but more like Satan, doing evil. God is good; therefore, anyone doing good is godlike.

The forbidden fruit instantly translated Adam and Eve into adulthood—capable of ruling themselves and raising their children—as well as taking dominion over their earthly lives.

They had to learn how to live outside the garden without the hands-on apprenticeship of their Father God. They had to plant their own garden and raise their own children.

They had to pass on to their offspring what they learned about death life, and also the task of fulfilling God's purpose. This is the most misunderstood aspect of human life. Man tends to focus on the flesh side of life rather than the inner spirit.

Breath and bread for the flesh are necessary for carnal life. But God's breath is necessary for spirit life. A god-man cannot live by bread alone.

Humans are divine creatures capable of divine spirit life. They know the purpose of life is to live and maintain animal life, but they are also capable of

knowing God's purpose in giving them sovereign ability to be like the creator and 'be about creating'.

We don't see this creative activity of divinity until the creation falls in the flood, resulting in necessity and challenge, which is always the source of (invention) creativity.

In today's world we are finally seeing man taking dominion over the creation to be a sovereign, like God, thus fulfilling a purpose. But we don't see much of God able to have dominion over the creature to fulfill the purpose of character likeness, which is virtue, love, grace, patience, etc.

The creature, man, is making more progress in subjecting the creation to himself than is God, the Creator, in bringing the creature in subjection to Himself.

*God sees His creative image in men of science more than He sees His character image in men of theology. Likewise, we can see people of science today bringing the physical creation into subjection for service to humanity -feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, giving sight to the blind, healing the sick, etc.,*

*while the people of God who study theology are not in subjection to the purpose of God to manifest his image and likeness in mortal flesh for everyone to see.*

### **Conclusion**

We may conclude that the consequence of sin depends upon the sin and that knowledge is necessary for any action to be sin.

If sin is of a moral nature, then the flesh life is affected. If sin is of a mental nature, then the heart is affected.

Since Jesus, the Second Adam, had such profound knowledge of God and man, he was vulnerable to failure and trespass. However, he did not seek to obey the Torah laws, most of which did not apply to him at all. Jesus knew the will of his father God for his life. He simply obeyed the Law of love for God and others. Love is the fruit of a seed in the heart which is manifest in flesh for all to see.

Jesus did no sin at all but if he had, his love would have covered it without consequences. However, if he failed to obey his life's purpose, the consequence would have been catastrophic for God and man.

Therefore, those long dead in the grave would remain in death. Those who are dying eventually

would join them. And there would be no one coming to the rescue with the keys to death and hell.

Adam's one act of sin resulted in all of his family losing soul life. Those sleeping spirits would need to be awakened to live again. To save a lost soul means to give the naked spirit an eternal body; but first the spirit must be rescued from death. This requires release from the wages of Adam's sin and the gates of hell.

Jesus' one act of righteousness resulted in a release from death in Adam and provided new bodies for sleeping spirits to inhabit.

Mankind tends to attribute to God the evil which resulted from Adam's sin. God desires that man praise and thank Him for the good that resulted from the Second Adam's death.

Every child of God should know (be aware) that he is the consequence of a righteous act of the Second Adam, and is redeemed from the consequence of a disobedient act of the first Adam. The new creature child of God is not saved from his own sin and sinning; but is saved from the death wage of Adam's one act of sin.

Some Bible teachers will put the consequences for all sin into hell after the sinner dies. That would make the wages of sin to be torment and suffering, whereas the Bible makes the wages to be death itself.

We can see the daily results of our transgressions. We can diminish these wages by decreasing their cause. But we have no way of removing Adam's sin or changing the wages.

The Good News of the Gospel of God in Christ is that the Second Adam changed our wages to life.

Our wages in natural birth from Adam's corrupt seed is death. But, the wages in spirit birth from God's incorrupt seed is life.

Jesus said that those who believed in Him would pass from death to life. Did he mean when they die? Or, when he died for them?

Adam and Eve passed from Life to Death when the family of man perished. Now the son of God will provide a way from Death to life where the family of God may live forever.

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