

Is Sin Sin?

I Timothy 1:12-17, Psalm 32:1-11

August 26, 2018

1. The Bible describes sin with _____.
Psalm 51:1-2 ***Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.***

Westminster Shorter Catechism. 14 Q: What is sin?

A: Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God.

(For more detail see “Twisted Love,” February 18, 2018 at www.WoodburyPres.com
<http://www.woodburypres.com/index.php/worship/sermons/sermon/349-180218>)

2. _____ sins.
I John 1:8 ***If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.***
Romans 3:23 ***for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.***

3. Not all sins are _____.
Matthew 23:23 ***“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.***

John 19:11 ***Jesus answered, “You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above. Therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.”***

I Timothy 1:15-16 ***Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. 16 But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life.***

II Peter 2:20-21 ***If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and are overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning. 21 It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than to have known it and then to turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them.***

Westminster Larger Catechism 150 Q. Are all transgressions of the law of God equally heinous in themselves, and in the sight of God?

A. All transgressions of the law of God are not equally heinous, but some sins in themselves, and by reason of several aggravations, are more heinous in the sight of God than others.

4. Any sin is spiritually _____.

Romans 6:23 ***For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.***

James 2:10-11 ***For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. 11 For he who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.***

The Westminster Larger Catechism 152 Q. What doth every sin deserve at the hands of God?

A. Every sin, even the least, being against the sovereignty, goodness, and holiness of God, and against his righteous law, deserveth his wrath and curse, both in this life, and that which is to come; and cannot be expiated but by the blood of Christ.

5. Our part is to _____ sin.

I John 1:9 ***If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.***

Proverbs 28:13 ***Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.***

Psalms 32:5 ***Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.” And you forgave the guilt of my sin.***

6. Jesus Christ saves _____.

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7. We can _____ to sin.

I Peter 2:24 ***“He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.”***

Romans 6:1-4 ***What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? 2 By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? 3 Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.***

Luke 15:18-19 ***I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’***

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August 26, 2018

1. The Bible describes sin with many words.

Psalm 51:1-2 ***Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.***

- Billy Graham said, “A sin is any thought or action that falls short of God’s will. God is perfect, and anything we do that falls short of His perfection is sin.”

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1. Everyone sins.

I John 1:8 ***If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.***

Romans 3:23 ***for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.***

2. Not all sins are equal.

Matthew 23:23 ***“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.***

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- It feels to me like Paul was wrong. I am the worst of sinners.
- I wouldn’t be surprised if you feel the same way.

II Peter 2:20-21 ***If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and are overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning. 21 It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than to have known it and then to turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them.***

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heinous in themselves, and in the sight of God?

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- Cardinal or Mortal Sins and Venial Sins in Roman Catholic theology.
- “Seven Deadly Sins” pride, greed, lust, envy, gluttony, wrath and sloth,
- Peccadilloes

3. Any sin is spiritually fatal or deadly.

Romans 6:23 ***For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.***

James 2:10-11 ***For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. 11 For he who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.***

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- God doesn't forgive us *because* we confess but *because* Christ died.
- An employee doesn't get paid *because* she deposits her check but *because* she works. But if she doesn't deposit the check, it doesn't do her any good.

6. We can die to sin.

I Peter 2:24 ***“He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.”***

Romans 6:1-4 *What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? 2 By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? 3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.*

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