

What is Sin?

Sin is rebelling against God. We can sin in any number of ways; words, actions, even thoughts. God gave us the Ten Commandments to serve as a boundary so we can know what His expectations of us are, but rebelling against God can also include tasks he asks us to do, or not to do. Adam and Eve were told not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Genesis 2:16-17 KJV

[16] And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: [17] 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.

Jesus warns us that even fleshly thoughts can be sin.

Matthew 5:27-28 KJV

[27] Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: [28] But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

Another example was when God asks Jonah to do something, but Jonah refused.

Jonah 1:1-3 KJV

[1] Now the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, [2] Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me. [3] But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord.

What Happens When We sin?

We die. Spiritually instantly, but not necessarily physically. Death spiritually, means dead to God, forever separated, out of his mind, forgotten. As God forgets our sins through the blood of Jesus, he can forget us also when we die in our sins. Think of God as a 100% pure gold nugget, we were created in his image, so we're gold, too. Once sin enters our life, we're no longer pure gold, Our impurity prevents us from mixing with God or it would contaminate Him as well. We need a way to remove the impurities from ourselves so we can unite with God.

Romans 6:23 KJV For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Isaiah 43:25 KJV I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

Hebrews 10:17 KJV And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

Can We Ever Come Back from Being Guilty of Sin?

Yes. Death must occur to atone for sin. Life is in the blood so the blood must be separated (shed) from the body, in order to be a sacrifice. but not all death qualifies. If we died because of our sin, it wouldn't remove the sin. Sadly, many people die in their sins. The atonement for our sin must be that which is acceptable to God. If we died in order to be forgiven of our sin, the very sin we committed with which we had to die, would be the contamination that disqualifies our blood from being an acceptable sacrifice.

Hebrews 9:22 KJV And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Acceptable Sacrifice for Sin Payment

Animals, the only other creation with life blood, were acceptable as a sacrifice offering because an animal does not have the ability to discern right from wrong and therefore is without sin; the blood, (life) remains pure. This allowed an animal's sacrifice (death) to be a substitute for our death by sin, but it only satisfied the instance of the sin, like paying a fine settles the charge, but doesn't erase the offense. The next time we sinned, it would require another animal sacrifice to atone for that one, too. The animal must also be the first fruit, (first generation, first born) of the mother and must have no physical blemish, deformity, or injury. In other words, The sacrifice needs to be the best you have, this shows the level of repentance you feel towards God from your sin. When the animal was sacrificed, the blood was drained (separated) from the body. Blood is sacred to God because it contains life, it must not be eaten.

Hebrews 9:22 KJV

And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Leviticus 22:20 KJV But whatsoever hath a blemish, that shall ye not offer: for it shall not be acceptable for you.

Leviticus 22:23 KJV

Either a bullock or a lamb that hath any thing superfluous or lacking in his parts, that mayest thou offer for a freewill offering; but for a vow it shall not be accepted.

Leviticus 3:16-17 KJV

[16] And the priest shall burn them upon the altar: it is the food of the offering made by fire for a sweet savour: all the fat is the Lord's. [17] It shall be a perpetual statute for your generations throughout all your dwellings, that ye eat neither fat nor blood.

Genesis 9:4 KJV But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat.

We'll Run Out of Animals!

Animal sacrifice was necessary to atone for our sins but sadly, it needed to be repeated frequently, God offered a better way, a perfect sacrifice that would cover sin once and for all. So He sent His only begotten son to this world in the form of a man, subject to all the same conditions we experience, to be the sacrificial lamb. Jesus, who knew no sin, paid the sin price for the world so whosoever believed on him would have everlasting life.

John 3:16 KJV For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Hebrews 10:10 KJV By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Hebrews 10:14 KJV For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

Jesus, Virgin birth

The virgin birth shows Jesus is God incarnate and not born of man. His righteousness and holiness sets his sacrifice on the cross above all other sacrifices that could be offered to God for atonement of sin, making it the perfect sacrifice. Any other sacrifice would be less than the best, and therefore not accepted by God. Even if it were possible for man to live a sinless life and be sacrificed, it still wouldn't be better than Jesus, who is the son of God, and without sin, but since no man could live his life without sin, the contest is a moot point.

Matthew 1:23 KJV Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Luke 1:27 KJV To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

Jesus, God incarnate

Jesus could satisfy the holy sacrifice because he was without sin. His sacrifice was not an abomination in the eyes of God, like the human sacrifices that occurred in the pagan nations that surrounded Israel. Jesus was of God and not born of man.

John 1:14 KJV [14] And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

1 John 4:14 KJV And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.

Luke 1:35 KJV And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

Jesus, Sinless life

Jesus's sacrifice was the perfect sacrifice, it cannot be improved or topped, so it only needed to be done once for all time. When we accept Jesus as savior, including his sacrifice for our sins on the cross, that too, only needs to happen once for us to be forgiven for all time. To place Jesus back up on the cross each time we sin, is to reduce his sacrifice to that of an animal, which he is not. Jesus is God-become-man for the purpose of satisfying the sin atonement of man once and for all.

1 Peter 2:22 KJV Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:

Hebrews 4:15 KJV For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

1 John 3:5 KJV And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

Through the Blood of Jesus we Receive:

1. Redemption (atonement, restitution, forgiveness)

1 Peter 1:18-21 KJV

[18] Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; [19] But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: [20] Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, [21] Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.

Ephesians 1:7 KJV

In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

2. Reconciliation (agreement, settlement, accord)

Colossians 1:19-22 KJV

[19] For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; [20] And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. [21] And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled [22] In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his sight:

3. Justification (basis, approval, vindication)

Romans 5:9 KJV

Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

Romans 8:30 KJV

Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

4. Sanctification (confirmation, purify, consecrate)

When we sin after we have been saved, our sin has already been forgiven but we need to repent to God for our sins because we are sanctified through the blood of Jesus, we need to remind ourselves of the holiness that we are now a part of. There is no room for sin in our cleansed life. Repentance is acknowledgement of what we've done is wrong in the eyes of God. Sin also has consequences in our life even though we are eternally saved, we can ruin the rest of our life and our testimony.

Hebrews 13:12 KJV Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.

1 John 1:7-10 KJV

[7] But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. [8] If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. [9] If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. [10] If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.