

*Doctrines Of The Faith - A Study in Truth*



*What The Bible Says About...*

# **HAMARTIOLOGY**

*The Doctrine of Sin*

**PASTOR ART KOHL**



# Hamartiology

*The Doctrine of Sin*

by Pastor Art Kohl

Scripture verses in this booklet are from the King James Holy Bible.

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# **Hamartiology**

## *The Doctrine of Sin*

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Introduction:.....	1
I. What Is Sin?.....	1
II. Original Sin.....	2
III. Types Of Sin Mentioned In The Bible .....	5
IV. What To Do With Sin.....	10
V. What God Does With Our Sins.....	13
VI. How Sin Works On Us .....	16
VII. Thirteen Reasons Not To Sin.....	17
Conclusion .....	19



## **Introduction:**

*“Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; **that sin** by the commandment **might become exceeding sinful.**”* (Romans 7:13). (Salvation from sin is dealt with in Soteriology – The Doctrine of Salvation).

## **I. What Is Sin?**

### **A. Dictionary:**

Hamartiology, n. [Gr. hamartia, error, sin, and -logia, from legein, to speak.] That part of anthropology or moral theology which deals with sin; a treatise or discussion concerning sin.

### **B. Concordance:**

Hamartano – to miss the mark, to err, to sin. *“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”* (Romans 3:23).

## II. Original Sin

### A. First Sin – Of Satan

*“He that committeth sin is of the devil; **for the devil sinneth from the beginning.** For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.” (1 John 3:8).*

Satan, of his own free will, chose to sin. He said “I will” five times in his original sin of pride and rebellion:

*“How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, **I will** ascend into heaven, **I will** exalt my throne above the stars of God: **I will** sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: **I will** ascend above the heights of the clouds; **I will** be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners? All the kings of the nations, even all of them, lie in glory, every one in his own house.*

*But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, and as the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcase trodden under feet.” (Isaiah 14:12-19).*

The creation, sin, and destruction of Satan: “Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, **till iniquity was found in thee.** By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the

*midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries **by the multitude of thine iniquities**, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee. All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more.” (Ezekiel 28:11-19).*

*“And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.” (Revelation 20:10).*

## **B. First Sin – Of Man (Adam And Eve)**

*“Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.” (Genesis 3:1-6).*

*“For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.” (1 Timothy 2:13-14).*

*“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.” (Romans 5:12).*

## **C. Every Man And Woman Has Sinned**

Sin is universal. We are sinners by nature, by birth.

*“Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.”* (Psalm 51:5). Also read 1 Kings 8:4b; Proverbs 20:9; Isaiah 64:6; Romans 3:23; 1 John 1:8-10; and 1 John 5:19.

#### **D. Every Man Is A Sinner By Choice**

*“Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away **of his own lust**, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.”* (James 1:13-15). Also read Psalm 53:3 and Isaiah 53:6.

#### **E. The Consequence Of Sin Is Death And Separation From God**

*“And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 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.”* (Genesis 2:16-17).

*“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”* (Romans 6:23).

*“But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.”* (Isaiah 59:2).

*“Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die... The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.”* (Ezekiel 18:4,20).

This is not only a spiritual death but a physical suffering in hell and the Lake of Fire: *“But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”* (Revelation 21:8). Also see Revelation 20:14.

### III. Types Of Sin Mentioned In The Bible

#### A. Transgression

The breaking of God's laws. A crime against His holiness. *"Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law."* (1 John 3:4).

#### B. Iniquity

Injustices; illegal activities; violations. *"And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."* (Matthew 7:23).

#### C. Trespass

A side-slip; lapse; deviation; unintentional error; fault.

*"And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses."* (Mark 11:25-26). See also 2 Corinthians 5:19.

#### D. Debts

Something owed, to fail in something owed or in duty; to fail in an obligation. *"And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors."* (Matthew 6:12).

#### E. Sins Of Omission

Things that we should do or are required to do, that we don't do. For example: failing to pray, failing to evangelize, failing to give, failing to love, failing to go to church, etc.

*"Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."* (James 4:17).

#### F. Sins Of Commission

Committing an action we should not commit, or behaving a way we should not behave. For example: adultery, gossip, stealing, hating, gambling, fornicating, despising, rebelling, etc. *"But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors."* (James 2:9). Also see 1 John 3:9.

#### G. Sins Of Ignorance

To stray from something we did not know was wrong; to be unaware; to act unwittingly; an inadvertent transgression. Ignorance is no excuse in God's eyes.

*"Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If a soul shall sin through ignorance against any of the commandments of the LORD concerning things which ought not to be done, and shall do against any of them:"* (Leviticus 4:2). Also read verses 13 & 27.

## **H. Sins Of Presumption**

To sin in arrogance or pride; to think there will be no consequences.

*“Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.”* (Psalm 19:13).

*“The shew of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves.”* (Isaiah 3:9).

## **I. Sins Of Youth**

Particular temptations youth often yield to, scarring their lives.

*“Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness’ sake, O Lord.”* (Psalm 25:7).

## **J. Sins Of The Heart**

*“For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.”* (Mark 7:21-23).

## **K. Unpardonable Sin**

This is committed by unbelievers who do not receive Jesus Christ as their Saviour. That can never be forgiven.

*“I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.”* (John 8:24). Also read John 16:9; John 14:6; and Acts 4:12.

## **L. Blasphemy Of The Holy Ghost**

This is committed by unbelievers who blaspheme the Holy Spirit by attributing Christ’s work through the Holy Spirit to the Devil (s).

*“Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come.”* (Matthew 12:31-32).

## **M. Sin Unto Death**

This is a sin committed by a believer that is so grievous to God, it causes the premature death of the believer.

Examples: Acts 5:1-10 & Judges 16:30. *“If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death.*

*There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.”* (1 John 5:16). Also read 1 Corinthians 11:30 & Ecclesiastes 7:17.

## **N. Sin Not Unto Death**

These sins lead to death, but not immediate physical judgment.

*“If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it. All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.”* (1 John 5:16-17).

## **O. Evil**

Sometimes the word “evil” refers to something bad. God brings evil (bad) on some people as a judgment. Other times the word “evil” means depraved. Then it is sinful.

*“Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.”* (Psalm 51:4).

Read the examples in Genesis 50:17 & 2 Kings 21:16.

## **P. Foolish Thoughts**

Silly or perverted thoughts. *“The thought of foolishness is sin: and the scorner is an abomination to men.”* (Proverbs 24:9).

## **Q. The Cessation Of Prayer**

We are taught to pray without ceasing and to continue instant in prayer. To stop is to sin. We must maintain a prayer time and a prayer life. *“Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way:”* (1 Samuel 12:23).

## **R. Anything Not Of Faith; Unbelief**

Doing something we doubt is right; not believing or trusting God and His Word. *“And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.”* (Romans 14:23).

## **S. All Unrighteousness**

That which is not right; anything that is wrong; wrongfulness of character, life, or action. *“All*

*unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.*" (1 John 5:17). Also read 1 John 1:9.

## **T. Despising Your Neighbor**

This would be a transgression of the second commandment, "*Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.*" "*He that despiseth his neighbour sinneth: but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he.*" (Proverbs 14:21).

## **U. Vain Talk**

Empty or evil talking; a multitude of words. "*In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise.*" (Proverbs 10:19). Also see Psalm 59:12.

## **V. Wickedness**

Depravity; degeneracy from original value. "*There is none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou art his wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?*" (Genesis 39:9).

## **W. Sins Against The Holy Spirit**

We have already seen the blasphemy of the Holy Ghost under Point L. Other sins against the Spirit include:

### **1. Grieving the Spirit**

*"And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."* (Ephesians 4:30).

### **2. Quenching the Spirit**

*"Quench not the Spirit."* (1 Thessalonians 5:19).

### **3. Resisting the Holy Spirit**

*"Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye."* (Acts 7:51).

### **4. Insulting the Holy Spirit**

This is like blasphemy of the Spirit, when the unsaved insult the Holy Spirit and His work on earth of exalting Jesus Christ and His blood. "*Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?*" (Hebrews 10:29).

There will be different degrees of suffering among the lost for all of eternity. Punishment will be sorer for those

who insult the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ and His blood.

### **5. Vexing the Holy Spirit**

Wearing down the Holy Spirit as He tries to help people. *“But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them.”* (Isaiah 63:10). (See also Genesis 6:3 and Acts 7:51)

### **6. Lying to the Holy Spirit**

*“But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.”* (Acts 5:3-4).

## **X. Abominations**

Sins and behaviors so egregious to God that they disgust Him. *“Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.”* (Leviticus 18:22)

## **IV. What To Do With Sin**

### **A. Be Saved From Sin**

*“And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.”* (Matthew 1:21).

*“Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.”* (Romans 4:7). *“I write unto you little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name’s sake.”* (1 John 2:12).

Salvation means to be “delivered or rescued”

### **B. Be Sorry For Sin**

*“For I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin.”* (Psalm 38:18). Not being sorry that we were caught but sorry for what we did.

### **C. Repent of Sin**

*“But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”* (Matthew 9:13).

*“I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.”* (Luke 15:7).

*“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin.”* (Ezekiel 18:30)

*“Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.”* (Acts 8:22).

Repentance is a change of mind wrought in us by God that is so strong it leads to desire and efforts to change actions.

### **D. Confess Your Sin**

*“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* (1 John 1:9).

To confess means to agree with God’s assessment of something. It is not saying, “Lord, if this is wrong forgive me”, but, “Lord this is wrong, you are right, forgive me.”

## **E. Forsake Your Sin**

*“He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.”* (Proverbs 28:13).

*“Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.”* (Isaiah 55:7). Forsake means “to abandon.”

## **F. Hate Sin**

*“Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked.”* (Psalm 97:10).

*“These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.”* (Proverbs 6:16-19).

*“For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.”* (Romans 8:13).

## **G. Put Off Sin And Put Them Away**

*“That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.”* (Ephesians 4:22-25).

*“But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.”* (Colossians 3:8).

*“Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:”* (Ephesians 4:31).

This is the picture of taking off dirty clothes and discarding them. “Put away” is the same phrase used to describe divorce. We need to divorce sin.

## **H. Lay It Aside**

*“Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,”* (Hebrews 12:1). It seems every one has some particular besetting sin. That one also should be set aside, the one we love the most.

## **I. Resist Sin**

*“Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.”* (Hebrews 12:4). Resist means “to put up a fight against it”.

## **J. Expose Sin**

*“And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.”* (Ephesians 5:11).

*“Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.”* (Isaiah 58:1)

*“Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.”* (1 Timothy 5:20). Reprove means “to expose.”

## **V. What God Does With Our Sins**

### **A. Washes Them Away (Cleanses Us)**

*“And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,”* (Revelation 1:5). This is a picture of being washed externally.

### **B. Forgives Us From Them**

*“In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;”* (Ephesians 1:7).

*“In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:”* (Colossians 1:14).

### **C. Puts Them Behind His Back**

*“Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.”* (Isaiah 38:17). Literally, “Between the shoulder blades”

### **D. Separates Us From Them as Far as the East is From the West**

*“As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.”* (Psalms 103:12). The east and west never meet.

### **E. Cleanses Them Away**

*“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.”* (1 John 1:7). This is a picture of being washed internally.

### **F. Blots Them Out**

*“I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake...”* (Isaiah 43:25a).

### **G. Remembers Them no More**

*“...and will not remember thy sins.”* (Isaiah 43:25b).

*“And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.”* (Hebrews 10:17)

Yes, God can do anything, even choose not to remember!

### **H. Justifies Us From Them**

Justification is the judicial act of God whereby God declares the *believing* sinner not guilty, not only erasing the penalty for the crime, but seeing the believer as though

he had never committed the crime.

*“Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.”* (Romans 3:24-26).

### **I. Buries Them In The Deepest Sea**

*“He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.”* (Micah 7:19).

Some trenches in the ocean are considered to be 37,000 feet deep. That is deeper than Mount Everest is high!

### **J. Put Them All On Jesus Christ**

*“Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.”* (Isaiah 53:4-6).

*“Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.”* (Isaiah 53:12).

*“So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.”* (Hebrews 9:28).

*“Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.”* (1 Peter 2:24).

This was an act of God whereby all of the sin of the whole world was transferred from the guilty sinners and laid upon Jesus Christ. He then payed the sentence for sin, death, for every man. (Hebrews 2:9). Jesus has satisfied the payment of all mankind's sin but most men have not availed themselves of that redemption by putting their

faith in Christ.

*“Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;”* (Romans 3:25).

*“And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.”* (1 John 2:2).

Propitiation means “satisfaction.”

## **VI. How Sin Works On Us**

*“Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.”* (James 1:12-15). Especially read the entire chapter of Romans 7.

### **A. First we resist sin**

This is done through the mechanisms of the conscience, moral teachings, and the work of the Holy Ghost (John 16:8-11).

### **B. Then we are allured by the presence of sin.**

### **C. The allurement of the sin draws us away from God and righteousness.**

### **D. Once drawn away we are tempted**

We are tempted by the sin, the tempter, and our own lusts (desires).

### **E. Then we are enticed by the tempter to try it**

See Matthew 4:3.

### **F. Then we yield to it and participate in it.**

### **G. Then we tolerate the sin and accommodate it more and more.**

### **H. Then we rationalize that it's not that bad.**

### **I. Then we embrace it.**

### **J. Then we defend it.**

### **K. Then we promote it and invite others to participate in it.**

### **L. Then we are dead in it.**

All spiritual energy in us is killed. There remains no more desire to repent and be holy. We resign ourselves to a life in sin.

## VII. Thirteen Reasons Not To Sin

Often we continue in a particular sin because we have no motivation to stop. We enjoy it. It gives us a temporal pleasure each time we participate in it. It gives pleasure for a season (Hebrews 11:25). But all sin brings forth death. It kills our joy, zeal, love, devotion, desire for God, and burden for souls.

May the following reasons motivate to give up all sin.

### **A. Sin disrupts fellowship with God.**

*“Behold, the LORD’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.”* (Isaiah 59:1,2).

*“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* (1 John 1:9).

### **B. It defeats the purpose of God’s Word.**

*“My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:”* (1 John 2:1).

### **C. It will make you do things you do not want to do.**

*“Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me... Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.”* (Romans 7:17,20).

### **D. It will withhold good things from you.**

*“Your iniquities have turned away these things, and your sins have withholden good things from you.”* (Jeremiah 5:25).

### **E. It causes a victim to be harmed.**

*“For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.”* (Romans 14:7). Sin will make us heartless (Hosea 4:11, Matthew 24:12). Heartless people do not do God’s work or win souls.

### **F. It causes death in the believer.**

*“For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die:...”* (Romans 8:13a).

### **G. It affects our prayer lives.**

*“If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:”* (Psalms 66:18).

### **H. It reminds God of the death of His own Son.**

*“I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for*

*mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.” (Isaiah 43:25).*

**I. It will surface eventually.**

*“But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.” (Numbers 32:23).*

*“Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked.” (Psalm 97:10).*

**J. It will cause painful consequences that one must live with.**

*“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.” (Galatians 6:7-8).* It can cause unpleasant emotions such as guilt, shame and embarrassment.

**K. It will bring chastisement.**

*“But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world. Wherefore, my brethren, when ye come together to eat, tarry one for another.” (1 Corinthians 11:32-33).*

**L. It will affect future generations.**

*“Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;” (Exodus 20:5).*

*“Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me,” (Deuteronomy 5:9).*

**M. It will give occasion to the enemies of God to blaspheme.**

*“Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.” (2 Samuel 12:14).*

## Conclusion

The Bible admonishes us to “sin not.” Sin is like cancer. Nobody puts cancer into their body – they try to get it all out. We should treat sin as a spiritual cancer.

*“Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; **cease to do evil;**”* (Isaiah 1:16).

*“Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: **sin no more,** lest a worse thing come unto thee.”* (John 5:14).

*“She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and **sin no more.**”* (John 8:11).

*“Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.”* (Romans 6:12).

*“Awake to righteousness, and **sin not;** for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.”* (1 Corinthians 15:34).

*“My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye **sin not.** And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:”* (1 John 2:1).

*“...that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.”* (Romans 7:13b).

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“Study to shew thyself approved  
unto God, a workman that  
needeth not to be ashamed,  
rightly dividing the word of truth.”

2 Timothy 2:15

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