

Attitudes Toward Sin And Error

Numbers 32:23
 "... be sure your sin will find you out."

Attitudes Toward Sin And Error

God's View Of Sin.

*Isaiah 1:18, "Come now, and let us reason together, saith Jehovah: **though your sins be as scarlet**, they shall be as white as snow; though they be **red like crimson**, they shall be as wool."*

Who Is God?

Look at Isaiah's picture of God. Isaiah 6:1 ff

- ▶ God is Holy (incomparable) in power. Isaiah 40:12
- ▶ God is Holy (incomparable) in righteousness. Isaiah 5:13-16
- ▶ God is Holy (incomparable) in grace and mercy. Isaiah 1:2-5; Isaiah 1:18

God's View Of Sin Is Different From Ours.

- ▶ *Isaiah 55:8-9, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith Jehovah. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."*
- ▶ God is from everlasting to everlasting. Psalms 90:2
- ▶ God is all-seeing. Psalms 139:7-8, 16
- ▶ God is infinite in wisdom. Psalms 147:5
- ▶ God has divine foreknowledge. 1 Peter 1:2; Isaiah 46:10
- ▶ God is infinitely holy. Isaiah 6:3
- ▶ God does not change. Malachi 3:6

God's View Of Sin Is Different From Ours.

However, God has not left us in the dark.

- ▶ God has given us the Bible.
 - It was given by divine inspiration. 2 Timothy 2:16-17
 - It contains the mind of God revealed to man. 1 Corinthians 1:11-13
 - It contains all things that pertain to "life and godliness." 2 Peter 1:3
 - It will judge us in the "last day." John 12:48

"Sin" Defined

- ▶ *hamartía*, "Sin, missing the true end and scope of our lives, which is God. An offense in relation to God with emphasis on guilt." (The Complete Word Study Dictionary)
- ▶ Man's first responsibility in life. Ecclesiastes 12:13; Matthew 6:33
 - **To fail in this is to miss the mark.**

“Sin” Defined

Sin is Transgression: 1 John 3:4

- ▶ “*Transgression*,” or “*Lawlessness*,” NKJV, *anomia*, “properly, the condition of one without law – either because ignorant of it, or because violating it.” (Thayer’s Greek Lexicon)
- ▶ God speaks to us through His Son. (Hebrews 1:1–2; 9:15–17)
 - **Anytime we transgress His New Testament, whether we do it deliberately or in ignorance, we sin!**

7

“Sin” Defined

Sin is Unrighteousness. 1 John 5:17

- ▶ “*Unrighteousness*” *adikia* is the comprehensive term for wrong, or wrongdoing, as between persons; *anomia*, “*lawlessness*,” is the rejection of divine law, or wrong committed against it. (*Vine’s Expository Dictionary*)
- ▶ God, in His law, has given us rules to govern our conduct toward one another.
 - Titus 2:11–12; James 1:27; Matthew 7:13–16; Matthew 7:12

8

“Sin” Defined

Whatever is “not of faith” is sin. Romans 14:23

- ▶ “*Faith*,” is used here, in a subjective sense, and refers to one’s own concept of right versus wrong.
 - To violate one’s own conscience is wrong.
 - Illustrations. Romans 14; 1 Corinthians 8; 10

9

“Sin” Defined

Failing to measure up to one’s understanding is sin. James 4:17

- ▶ “*Thou shalt not ...*” cf. Exodus 20:13–17
- ▶ “*Thou shalt ...*” cf. Matthew 25:41–46

10

The Awfulness Of Sin Is Seen When One Considers What Sin Is Against

Against God.

- ▶ Always known. Numbers 32:23; Luke 15:21
- ▶ Cost God His Son. John 3:16
- ▶ Cost Jesus His life. 2 Corinthians 5:21

Against other people.

- ▶ Galatians 5:19–21
- ▶ Consider adultery, incest, drunkenness, murder, etc.

Against self.

- ▶ Proverbs 6:27–28; 13:15; Galatians 6:7

11

The Awfulness Of Sin Is Seen In The Consequences

- ▶ **All sin separates from God. Isaiah 59:1–2**
- ▶ **Temporal consequences. 2 Samuel 12**
- ▶ **Eternal consequences. Matthew 25:30, 41, 45; Romans 6:23**

12

All Are Guilty

- ▶ *Romans 3:9, "What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we before laid to the charge both of Jews and Greeks, that they are all under sin."*
- ▶ *Romans 3:10, "as it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one."*
- ▶ *Romans 3:18, "There is no fear of God before their eyes."*
- ▶ *Romans 3:23, "for all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God"*

13

Deny Them

- ▶ Pharisee. Luke 18:11; 1 John 1:8
- ▶ Ahab. 1 Kings 18:17
- ▶ King Saul. 1 Samuel 15
- ▶ Blame someone else. Genesis 3:12ff
- ▶ Find someone who will sympathize with us. 1 Kings 22:4-8; cf. 22:30ff
- ▶ Hide them. Proverbs 7
 - King David. 2 Samuel 11
- ▶ "Time heals all things." Genesis 42:21-22
- ▶ Deny any absolute moral standard. John 18:38

Ignore Them

- ▶ Ancient Israel. warned: Deuteronomy 4, 8, 30; Joshua 23:16ff
 - Chastisements and judgments, were not taken to heart (cf. Amos 4:6-13).
- ▶ Belshazzar. Daniel 5; Numbers 32:23
- ▶ Jews. Matthew 13:15

Live With Them

- ▶ Pilate. Matthew 27:24-25
- ▶ Jews:
 - Killed Jesus. cf. Acts 5:28
 - Kill the apostles. Acts 5:33
 - Killed Stephen. Acts 7
 - Kill Paul. Acts 14:19; Count him an enemy. Galatians 4:16
- ▶ Corinth. 1 Corinthians 5:1-2; 2 Corinthians 6:14ff

Oppose Them

- ▶ **Ezekiel**. Ezekiel 2:1-7; 3:16ff; cf. Jeremiah 5:14; 6:10ff; Jeremiah 20:7
"Ye shall know that I am the Lord." 63 times in Ezekiel
- ▶ **Christ**. Matthew 21:12, Overturned tables of money changers.
Matthew 23:13-33, *"Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites ..."*
- ▶ **Paul**. Galatians 2:4-5
 - *"Have no fellowship ..."* Ephesians 5:3ff
 - Reprove, rebuke, and exhort. 2 Timothy 4:2ff