

# Lesson 12: Man and Sin

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## Lesson Introduction



In this lesson we will take a look at a problem that has plagued mankind for nearly all of man's existence: sin. Some people think they are not too bad, while others know without a doubt they are sinners deserving of hell. In this lesson we will look at the origin of sin, the reality sin, and the Biblical view of sin and how we can overcome it.

### Lesson Outline

- Topic 1: Entrance of Sin
- Topic 2: Reality of Sin
- Topic 3: Proper View of Sin
- Topic 4: Results and Penalty of Sin
- Topic 5: Provision for Sinners
- Topic 6: The 2 Natures

## Topic 1: Entrance of Sin

We will look at several different things. . . The first one is The Entrance of Sin. We kind of touched on this explaining what is man, and man in creation was created innocent, perfect. But then man had the opportunity to sin, and they did. Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden. But we saw the entrance of sin even before that. Remember how we talked about Lucifer? Lucifer and (Ezekiel 28:17) Remember in Isaiah it was talking about how he was lifted up in pride and he sinned. He said in his heart, "I will ascend into heaven. I will exalt my throne. I will, I will, I will, I will." And if you want to really define sin and say, "What is sin?" That is sin. That is sin right there. It's pride. It's elevating ourselves above our Creator, and mankind is in sin. We have the introduction of sin into the human race. And again, Adam and Eve, they didn't realize that they weren't obtaining independence. They thought they were, but that's deception. They were actually becoming bondservants. Isn't that ironic? They thought they were going to gain independence from God, Who they were created to be dependent upon, but God also gave man a free will, and they decided to disobey. They decided to sin. They became bondservants to Satan, and the unfortunate thing is this didn't only happen to Adam and Eve, this happens to all of their children. We all are children of Adam and Eve. This is the biblical account of Creation and procreation. We are all descendants of one woman, Eve, and that genetically plays out. If you look genetically, you'll find that to be the truth. Someone has asked this question, and this is a question I get asked a lot, "Why did God allow sin in the first place?" Well, it says in (Ephesians 2:7). That is unbelievable. That is amazing to me. Why did He take this big gamble when He knew we would sin? He knew Adam and Eve would fall to Satan's lie in the Garden of Eden. And then all that has come of that, and all the hardships that we face today as we try to overcome this weight of sin in our life, we try to get above it, so that He can show the exceeding riches of His grace toward us in Christ Jesus.

### QUESTION 1

The first sin ever committed was by \_\_\_\_\_.

### QUESTION 2

Sin is \_\_\_\_\_ in elevating ourselves above our \_\_\_\_\_.

### QUESTION 3

When we sin, thinking we will find independence, we actually end up in \_\_\_\_\_.

### QUESTION 4

Adam and Eve became bondservants to sin and Satan, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin passed on to their descendants.

### QUESTION 5

God allowed sin to happen, so that He could show the exceeding riches of His \_\_\_\_\_.

## Topic 2: Reality of Sin

Not only are we looking at the entrance of sin into the world, but also the reality of sin. Sin is a fact. You go out and ask people what is sin, or have you committed sin, or are you a sinner? I think a lot of people would say, "Well I'm better than the next guy. I'm really not that bad." Well that wasn't the question. The question is, "Are you a sinner?" You know, have you kept the 10 Commandments? "Oh yeah, I've kept the 10 Commandments." Some of them will say, "I've kept the 9 Commandments," or "11 Commandments." They don't even know how many there are. But then you probe a little deeper. "Have you ever killed anyone?" "No, I've never killed anyone." "Have you ever hated anyone?" "Well, yeah, I've hated people." Well, Jesus said if you've hated, you committed murder. "Have you ever lusted?" "Yeah." Then you've committed adultery. All of a sudden, you start to see who we are in light of God's perfection and holiness. The fact is, we are sinners. There is such a thing as sin. It is a fact. (Romans 3:9,10-11). This is the fact, and it's a sad fact, but it's a true fact. We have sin. All have sinned. It's a reality. Nature proclaims this. Why is there such a thing as a volcano? Why is there such a thing as an earthquake? Well, because creation groaneth, it says in (Romans 8:22). That is even a proof of the reality of sin, because the nature testifies it and proclaims it. And the law is what reveals sin. It says in (Romans 3:19) There's no one that is without excuse. There's no mouth that can defend themselves when the law is held up to them. All the world may become guilty before God. (Romans 3:20) Sin is reality. It is a fact. The law reveals that. Experience proves it. Look at history. Look at the genocides we've seen. Look at the atrocities we've seen. Look at suicide bombers, innocent children dying. How else do you explain all of that except sin? It's proved by experience. Man confesses sin. If you're honest with yourself, you'll confess it. Paul said, "I am the chief of sinners." If you're honest, that'll be the fact of life. There will be a proof that we are sinners. The proofs of sin, there's three: 1. There's the angelic proof. Satan committed the sin of unholy ambition is commendable, at least by the world's standards. That's what the world wants you to have. And Satan had this unholy ambition, to be more than he was created to be, and then he

draws a whole host of other angelic beings after him. We also have the human proof of sin. We have Adam. Adam's one sin was enough evil to cause him to be depraved, and to cause untold millions to spend eternity in Hell. Because of his sin, all his children are born in sin, and in need of a Savior. The destination of Adam and his children apart from God's redeeming Savior is Hell. Sin is powerful. And then there's divine proof. This is the greatest proof that sin is real. And that is Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came to die for, who? Sinners. If sin wasn't a problem, then He wouldn't have come. He wouldn't have died. The perfect Lamb of God would not have had to be sacrificed. Oh no, sin is real. Sin is awful.

**Assignment:**

- Memorize Ephesians 2:7

**QUESTION 6**

The majority of unsaved people do not see themselves as \_\_\_\_\_, but as “decent” people.

**QUESTION 7**

When we look at ourselves in the light of \_\_\_\_\_, we see that there is a fact that sin exists.

**QUESTION 8**

We can see the reality of sin in \_\_\_\_\_.

**QUESTION 9**

A simple look at the news headlines reveals the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin.

**QUESTION 10**

The greatest proof of the existence of sin is that the Son of God came to \_\_\_\_\_ for sinners.

**Topic 3: Proper View of Sin**

How do we overcome sin? How do we rise above it? Well, here's different views of sin. Here's the modern view. This is what you'll hear today on television. You'll hear this in universities. Society calls sin indiscretion. Politicians that are supposed to be moral and examples of conservatism are having affairs and all sorts of terrible things going on in their lives. But we call that “indiscretion,” or “mistakes,” or “shortcomings.” Why don't we call it sin? Let's call it what it is. Scholars call it ignorance; evolutionists call it a trait of beasts that man will eventually outgrow as we continue to improve. Well I haven't seen the improvement. I don't think you have, either. A fleshly man says it is just a weakness. Alcoholism, alcoholism is a weakness, or a sickness, or a disease. Why don't we call that what it is? It is sin. All of these things, it is sin. That's the modern view of sin. What's the biblical view of sin? Oh, there's a lot of biblical views of sin. First it's called “missing the mark.” We know that in Romans (3:23). But target, the bullseye, was perfection, according to God—and we've all missed the mark—some get closer [than] others—but we've all missed the mark. No one even gets near the center. The only one is Jesus Christ. So sin is called missing the mark. What else does the Bible call it? It's called a transgression. Whether it's deliberate or unintentional. There's sins that are unintentional, sins we didn't even know about, sins of

omission, sins of commission. It is simply an overstepping of God's divine boundary. According to the Bible, it's bending that which is straight. It's this idea in (Job 4:8) of . . . Iniquity is the bending of that which is supposed to be straight. When you have a farmer, you want those roads to be straight, and iniquity is bending that which is to be straight. It means to make crooked. What does the Bible call sin? It calls it rebellion against God. (Isaiah 1:2) Rebellion . . . It's called debt. Forgive us our debts in the prayer that the Lord was teaching us to pray. Sin is called trespass. It's putting all our will above God's divine authority. It says in Ephesians 2:1 we are dead in trespasses and sins. What else does the Bible call sin? It calls sin disobedience. A lack of response to God in not obeying Him, disobedience (Ephesians 2:2) talks about the children of disobedience. What does the Bible call sin? The Bible calls sin a lack of faith. (Romans 14:23) It says . . . Oh, the biblical view of sin. Sin is called ungodliness in Romans 4:5. It's the one that is ungodly is justified by faith. The ungodly. The impious. Sin is also called a deviation from God's requirements in (Galatians 6:1). And it talks about restoring that person, but it's, it's the idea of a deviation of God's requirements. So what are we going to call sin? Are we going to call it what the modernists call it? Are we going to call it what the liberals call it? Are we going to call it what the evolutionists call it? Or should we call it what the Bible calls it? Let's call it what the Bible calls it

**Assignment:**

- Memorize Ephesians 2:1-2

**QUESTION 11**

Society calls sin: \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.

**QUESTION 12**

The Bible calls sin \_\_\_\_\_.

**QUESTION 13**

Sin can be \_\_\_\_\_ but it is still sin.

**QUESTION 14**

Sin is a deviation from God's \_\_\_\_\_.

**QUESTION 15**

As Christians we should call \_\_\_\_\_ what God and the Bible call it.

## **Topic 4: Results and Penalty of Sin**

What are the results of sin? Well, sin is observable in the world, in the vegetable kingdom, if you will. The idea of the ground being cursed and thorns and thistles—I hate thorns and thistles. . The ground was cursed. The animal kingdom was cursed. Before sin, there was no more death. The Bible talks in a perfect state, the lion would lay down with the lamb. It talks about how these different animals that would never get along in a zoo—you don't bring a lion and a lamb in a zoo and put them in the same enclosure, But you know, that's a result of sin. That's one of the things that started when sin entered the world. We see

the result of sin is noticeable in all mankind. We've seen sin everywhere. It affects everything. It's universal and affects all of creation. What is the realm of sin? Well, there's three realms. There's first of all the acts of sin that we sin. This is simply the committing sins by conduct. Individual sins that we commit. That is one of the realms of sin, sins that we act and we do. There's another realm of sin and that's the state of sin. It's our condition being void of righteousness. No one is righteous. It's just this state that we're in is a state of unrighteousness. And then we have the nature that we are conceived in sin, and we have the sin nature. This is our standing, the three realms of sin. What about the penalty of sin? Well, we've seen that as a result of sin, the natural penalty, you know that one sin will keep you from having joy and happiness in your life. You lose your joy, you lose your happiness. There is a natural result of sin as a penalty. We have the natural consequence of sin, disease. Who here likes cancer? I hate cancer. Who here likes diseases like MS and all of these things? I hate diseases. I hate to see children with leukemia. I hate to see all of these things. This is a consequence, the natural consequence of disease. Can you imagine what it must have been like for Adam and Eve to have to bury Abel? Oh the heart wrench of that! That is a natural consequence of sin. Then we have the spiritual penalty, which are the worst consequences of sin. We have death. Death—that's physical death and eternal separation from God in Hell. Spiritual death, eternal death; we are lost; we are condemned; we are guilty; we face perdition. That is the Hell-fire, eternal punishment, torment. . . . Let me read for you Revelation 20. Revelation 14:11 talks about the smoke that is rising forever from Hell. Revelation 20:11 talks about the Great White Throne, and it talks about God sitting there and judging. (Revelation 20:15) That is the result, the spiritual penalty, of sin. It says in (Romans 3:26 ).

#### **QUESTION 16**

Sin is observable \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **QUESTION 17**

Our state of sin is our condition of being void of \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **QUESTION 18**

We are \_\_\_\_\_ with our sin nature.

#### **QUESTION 19**

A natural consequence of sin is \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **QUESTION 20**

The spiritual penalty of sin is \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Topic 5: Provision for Sinners**

After we put our trust in the Redeemer, Jesus Christ, how can we overcome sin in our lives each and every day? Well, we have threefold provision against sin. Every Christian has these three things that God has provided for you to overcome sin each and every day in your life after you know Christ as Savior.

The first is the Word of God. It says in (Psalm 119:11) What's the first provision to overcome sin? That is the Word of God. John 15:7 talks about abiding in Him and His words abiding in us. The Word of God abiding in us will help us overcome the gravity of sin in our lives. The second of the threefold provisions is Christ interceding for us. Christ is praying for you to overcome sin. He prayed for Peter in (Luke 22:32). (Romans 8:34) He is there praying for you. How do we overcome sin? Know that He's praying for us. And the third thing, and this is very powerful. We've already talked about the Spirit, but that is the indwelling Spirit of God. In (Zechariah 4:6) How do we overcome sin? We overcome sin by the power of the Spirit, by living in the Word of God, and by knowing that Christ is interceding for us and praying for us to the Father. Isn't that neat? Isn't that neat that we have these things for us? What is the standing of sinners? What is the standing of sinners? Well, we've already talked about our sinful nature. We've already talked about our sinful practice. We know that we're lost in sin. We're spiritually dead. We're under God's wrath. We're waiting for death, and we're sure of Hell. Not a good prospect. But then what is the standing for the forgiven sinner? Those that are in Christ—it talks about that in Ephesians 1:3. It talks about that we're (Ephesians 1:3) . . . What is our standing as forgiven sinners? Perfect. We're not talking about perfection here and now, we're talking about a standing before God when He sees you and me, the forgiven sinner, He sees the righteousness of Jesus Christ. And He was perfect, so He sees us perfect in position. Then we are new creatures; we're saved; we're dead unto sin; we're a child of God; we're under God's favor; we're waiting for God in glory; and we are sure of Heaven. One of my favorite verses on the security of the believer is (1 Peter 1:3-5). I like this list a whole lot better than the other list. Well how do you get on this list? You believe Jesus Christ died and forgave you. You believe that He's the only Way to Heaven. Trust Him. Go from the list of the sinner to the list of the forgiven sinner.

**Assignment:**

- Memorize Psalm 119:11

**QUESTION 21**

Despite still having our sin nature, it is possible to \_\_\_\_\_ sin on a daily basis.

**QUESTION 22**

Overcoming sin will not come naturally; we must be \_\_\_\_\_ in His Word every day.

**QUESTION 23**

The \_\_\_\_\_ gives us power to overcome sin.

**QUESTION 24**

The standing of the sinner is that they are spiritually \_\_\_\_\_ and sure of hell.

**QUESTION 25**

The standing of the forgiven sinner is that they are a child of \_\_\_\_\_ and sure of Heaven.

## Topic 6: The 2 Natures

Oh, I don't think we would do justice talking about overcoming sin if we didn't talk about the two natures. The Bible says we're born. The first time, we're born of the flesh. The Bible says we're born the second time, we're born of the Spirit. Then the forgiven sinner has two natures. We have the new and the old. Galatians says (Galatians 5:17) You can't get off the ground. You want to, but you can't. Why? Because you've got this conflict going. You've got to solve this conflict. How are you going to do that? What is the old nature? Well, it's the flesh. (John 3:6) It's the flesh nature. It's the natural man. It's the old man. It's not your dad. It's the old man; it's the flesh. The old man, according to Romans 6:6, it's the outward man; it's the heart of man. In Mark 7:21,23, it talks about from the heart, all of these evil things, adultery, fornication, murders, thefts, come from the heart of man. All of these evil things come from within and defile the man, and that's the old nature, the flesh nature, the carnal mind. There's nothing good about this old nature, but we still have it after salvation. We have it until we get to Heaven. The question is this, Do we sin because we're sinners, or are we sinners because we sin? How about that? What is the answer to that? We sin because we're sinners and we're sinners because we sin. But I think it's first and foremost we sin because we are sinners. That old nature, but then we have salvation from the power and penalty of sin and those are based on divine provision and human appropriation. So once we put our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, not only do we have that old nature, but now we have a new nature. What is the new nature called? It's called the spirit nature the divine nature, the new man the inward man and the mind. This is the new nature what is going to win in the conflict of the 2 natures? The one that you feed. If you are feeding the one you are starving the other, if you are starving the one you are feeding the other. This is how we overcome sin, by feeding the new nature. How do we do that? Well apart from the holy spirit we cannot do the will of God. IT says in Romans 7:22) The inward man, the carnal man will delight to do the law of God but it cannot do it. Well how do we do it? We are defeated unless we allows the spirit to work in our lives through Jesus Christ through the union in him, in his crucifixion, death burial and resurrection. This does not make us not able to sin, wouldn't that be nice. The new nature simply makes us able to not sin So what is our responsibility? In relation to the old nature our responsibility each and every day is to see it God's way, Romans 6:11) So every day you get up, and say, My flesh, my old nature is dead. Reckon means to acknowledge the truth of it. To agree with God, the Bible says this is what we should do. We say, I'm dead unto sin. And that is the truth; we are dead unto sin, we have this provision. Make no provision for the flesh, it says in ROMANS 13:14. Mortify the flesh, that means to put it to death. Don't try to improve the old man, don't try to reform it. Put it off, it says in Ephesians 4:22. So then whats the responsibility to the new nature? Well, it's reckon that new nature to be alive to God, it continues in Romans 6:11) How do we overcome sin? We walk in newness of life. We feed and nourish the new nature. The bible talks about the milk of the Word of God, the meat of the word of God put on the new man, Ephesians 4:24. And depend on the indwelling holy spirit for power. That is how we can overcome this incredible force that is weighting us down, called sin.

### QUESTION 26

The forgiven sinner has \_\_\_\_\_ natures.

### QUESTION 27

Some names for the sin nature are the \_\_\_\_\_, the natural \_\_\_\_\_, and the old \_\_\_\_\_.

**QUESTION 28**

The new nature is often referred to as the divine \_\_\_\_\_ or the \_\_\_\_\_ man.

**QUESTION 29**

The nature that you \_\_\_\_\_ is the nature that will be stronger and win in a conflict.

**QUESTION 30**

We overcome sin by \_\_\_\_\_ the new nature and allowing the Spirit to \_\_\_\_\_ in our lives.