



Jesus said, "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." Matthew 11:28,29

What is Sin?

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Introduction: Sin is our greatest problem. It is the root cause of wickedness, sorrow, sufferings, war, hatred and all immoral perversions. People have different ideas about sin. For some there is no such thing like sin and it is relative. Others think doing harms to someone may be sin. Many people consider bad habits and evil thinking are sinful. Many people do not take sin seriously because they do not want to be accountable to God. But the Bible says that sin is a reality. Sin is essentially rebellion against God. It is transgression, lawlessness and falling short of the glory of God (Psalms 32:1,2; Rom 3:23).

The definition of sin: Sin is rebellion and hostility toward God (Rom 8:7). Sin ignores God's authority and casts doubts upon God's character (Gen 3:4). Sin is turning to our own way (Isaiah 53:6). Knowing to do good and not doing it is sin (James 4:17). Sin is acting wickedly and doing evil in God's sight. Not believing in Jesus is the unpardonable sin (Matt 12:31). Whatever does not proceed from faith in Christ is sin (Rom 14:23).

The nature of Sin: Bible has divided sin into two categories; the inherited sin and the imputed sin. By one man, sin entered into the world and through sin, death reigned over every man. Man commits sin in his thoughts, in his words and also in his deeds. Sin begins in our hearts (Matt 5:28). Human heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked (Jer 17:9). Sin separates us from God and makes fellowship with God impossible (Isaiah 59:1,2). Sin brings God's wrath upon us and leads us to destruction (John 3:36; Matt 7:13).

The origin of sin: Bible talks about the origin of sin in Isaiah 14:12-14, Lucifer was an angel perfect in knowledge and beauty and was with God in heaven. His sin was pride. He wanted to be equal to God. For this sin Lucifer was cast out of heaven and he became the Devil. He tempted the first human family and thus sin entered into this world (Genesis:3). They immediately experienced spiritual death and realized that they are naked. The wages of sin is death which includes both spiritual and second death (Rom 6:23; Rev 20:12).

The consequences of sin: Because of Adam's willful disobedience sin entered the world and death became the ruler of the nature. Sin is the cause of our separation from God. The difference between obedience and disobedience is life and death. The soul who sins shall die (Ezekiel 18:4). Sin brings God's wrath upon us. Sin leads to spiritual blindness. Satan has blinded the minds of those who do not believe Christ so they are unable to see the glorious light of the gospel of Christ. (2 Corinthians 4:4). Sin affects our conscience and deceives us (1 Tim 4:2). Sin is like yeast, it spreads so fast and corrupts us. The sin of Adam brought God's curse upon all creation. Pain, sorrow, trouble, violence, war and death are the result of sin.

The punishment of sin: God punishes sin because He is righteous and holy (Romans 6:23). God hates sin but loves sinners. "For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord". Sin causes Adam to lose his significance and made him aware of guilt (Gen 3:8). Sin separates us from God. We love darkness rather than light, because our deeds are evil (John 3:19,20). One violation of the perfect holiness of God makes us sinners (James 2:10). They lost their dignity they enjoyed before fall (Rom 3:23). Instead of being glad they became fearful (Gen 3:10). Death means separation. Physical death is the separation of spirit from the body and spiritual death is separation from God. Eternal death is the separation of souls from God, when sinners are cast into hell fire.

The remedy of sin: Sin is the biggest problem that man has ever faced. But God who is rich in mercy became the source of our salvation (Eph 2:4). Because of that we don't have to receive what we *deserve*. *God who is rich in mercy found a solution. He sent His only Son to die for us.* Jesus came to seek and save that which was lost. He said "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance (Luke 5:32). He came to this world in the form of a man. He was born to virgin Mary who was a descendant of David. The sinful nature of Adam was not there in Jesus because He was not born of man. He took on Himself the sins of the whole world died on our behalf (John 1:29). Three days later He rose from the dead in His glorified body. He is alive today to save all those who believe in Him (John 1:12), The penalty of sin is dreadful. Blessed is the person whose sin is forgiven!