

### The Results of the Fall

All people are born with a sinful nature. When Adam sinned, all people became sinners by nature and that sin nature is passed on from parents to children (see Genesis 5:1-3). The fallen image of God in a person became a person's nature. The sin nature is that pre-disposition in a person which is bent *away* from God and *toward* sin and self. People by nature have an inborn inclination to and attraction for sin. The result of having an inherited sin nature is that we are born in a state of spiritual death (Separation) with regard to God. Romans 5:19; Ephesians 2:3; Psalms 51:5.

The cure for the sin nature is Christ's redemptive death on the cross by which He judged (Condemned) sin in the flesh. Galatians 5:24; Romans 8:3-5; Ephesians 2:4-6,19; Colossians 2:11.

### Nature of Sin

It is almost impossible to define sin with a word, phrase, or simple sentence. For example, a good general definition of sin would be *Sin is any attitude or action which is contrary to the character of God.* And yet sin is more than an act or attitude, it is both a state or condition in which a person finds himself/herself and a nature which he/she possesses. Before trying to define sin, it is perhaps better to describe sin as Scripture does.

Sin is:

1. Missing the mark (God's standard) – Matthew 24:12
2. Breaking (transgressing) God's law - Romans 2:23
3. Disobedience to God- 1 Samuel 28:18
4. Rebellion against God- Isaiah 59:13
5. Lawlessness- 1 John 3:4
6. Unrighteousness- Romans 3:5
7. Godlessness- Romans 1:18
8. Wickedness - Ezekiel 18:27
9. Going astray- Isaiah 53:6
10. Iniquity - Psalms 51:2
11. Evil (wrong) - Habakkuk 1:13
12. Falling short of God's glory - Romans 3:23
13. Pride (conceit) - 1 Timothy 3:6-7
14. Living independently of God- Genesis 3:5 (i.e., being your own God- Judges 21:25)

SIN IS REPUDIATION OF GOD AND PROMOTION OF SELF (OR ANYTHING WHICH IS NOT GOD)

SIN IS EVIL AND WRONG BECAUSE IT IS UNLIKE GOD AND CAUSES PEOPLE TO BE UNLIKE GOD

### Consequences of Sin

1. Separation from God
  - Separated and hidden- Isaiah 59:2
  - Alienated from God- Colossians 1:21

- Enemies of God- Romans 5:10
2. Dead in sin
    - Soul that sins shall die- Ezekiel 18:1-4
    - Dead in transgressions and sin- Ephesians 2:1
    - Ungodly- Romans 5:6
    - Sinners (separated from God) - Romans 5:8
  3. Condemned to physical death and spiritual death
    - Sin brought death and judgement- Romans 5:16-18
    - Under condemnation- Romans 8:1
    - Objects of God's wrath- Ephesians 2:3
    - Under indictment for sins- Colossians 2:14
  4. Lost and without hope
    - Separated from Christ- **Ephesians 2:12**
    - Foreigners to God's covenants- **Ephesians 2:19**
  5. In Adam - *All people were/are under the curse of sin and death*
    - Romans 5:12,18
    - 1 Corinthians 15:21-22
  6. A member of Satan's kingdom
    - John 8:42-47
    - Colossians 1:13-14
    - Acts 26:18
  7. Destined for the eternal lake of fire
    - John 3:16
    - 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10

## Temptation

Temptation is not a sin - yielding to it is! We will all be tempted by Satan, sin, self and the secular world to sin from time to time.

We successfully deal with temptation by

1. Refusing to be deceived- James 1:13-17
2. Recognize its source- 1 Peter 5:8-11
3. Resisting by faith- James 4:7; Ephesians 6:10-16
4. Remembering the Word - Matthew 4:1-4; Ephesians 6:17
5. Relying on the power of the Holy Spirit- Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 6:18
6. Realizing God has provided a way out- **1 Corinthians 10:11-13**

REMEMBER: WHEN A CHRISTIAN FALLS TO TEMPTATION OR SIN IT IS BECAUSE HE/SHE CHOOSES TO NOT BECAUSE HE/SHE HAS TO

**Reflecting on the two past lessons: What is the relationship between Jesus and sin?**

**What sin patterns have you identified in your life, and how does one overcome them?**