

The Oldest Sins in the Book – Aug 2, 2023 – Part One

We don't get very far in human existence before there is sin.

What is sin? A wrongful act. Violating the will of God.

NLT – “it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.” –
James 4:17 It's not just violating the 10 Commandments.

Discontent is the **root** of sin. It's the heart of Satan.

3 specific sins lie behind idea of Discontent: pride, rebellion, unbelief.

- Discontent is **Pride** – it says: “I deserve better than God has given me.”
 - Pride says: “I shouldn't been treated that way...deserve better”
 - We get angry w/God, set ourselves up for sin; hear opposite truth
 - Truth: God loves me. Provides. He gives me grace. Blesses.
- Discontent is **Rebellion**. Job said, “The Lord gave, the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.”
 - Rebellion says: “The Lord gave, but not enough.”
 - Rebellion says to the Potter, “Why did you make me like this?”
 - Rebellion says: “God, you should have done something different.”
And then we set out to **put our lives in our own hands.**
- Discontent is a fruit of **Unbelief**. God's people brought out of slavery, Red Sea, God provided manna, & they were led by Pillar of Cloud/Fire.
 - Yet they came to a place w/o water... **doubted God's provision.**
 - **Some of the most blessed are the most discontent.**

If we don't deal w/ discontent feelings, we open a door for the Enemy to work.
Complaining matters. Feeling frustrated in life needs addressing.

The Five Oldest Sins:

1st Oldest Human Sin – Eve's Sin - Unbelief

- God puts Adam & Eve in the Garden in Eden. Naked, no problem.
 - Eden is unknown. River flows from Eden into 4 headwaters: Pishon, Gihon; Tigris & Euphrates. (Turkey, Iraq, Syria)
 - **God gives ONE Rule** - Eat from any tree – but You must not eat from the Tree of Knowledge or you will die.
 - **Serpent lies** to woman, “Did God really say you must not eat from any tree in the garden?” Twisted Truth. (ploy still works today!)
 - **Eve answers correctly** – just not the one in the middle or you'll die.

- More temptation & another lie. **Serpent says:** “You won’t die. God knows your eyes will be opened, you’ll be like God, knowing good & evil.”
 - **Gen. 3:6-7** – Eve “saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then *she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too.* 7 At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.”
 - I & destroy.”** Jesus came so we can have life, abundantly
 - **Steal joy . . . kill relationship w/God ... destroy soul.**
 - Death comes eventually. Unbelief destroys your soul
- Notice how plan works – **DISCONTENT**. Eve wanted wisdom, be like God. And **PRIDE** caused her to think – I deserve more than God has given me.
 - **Remedy: Psm 23:1** – “Lord is my Shepherd, I have all that I need”... “I lack nothing”... “I shall not want.”

2nd Oldest Sin – Adam’s Sin was different: Peer Pressure

- Eve was deceived ... unbelief. But Adam ate the forbidden fruit w/full knowledge. He knew what he was doing.
- **Adam gave in to Peer Pressure . . .** which caused his **Rebellion**. Adam stood silent as Satan deceived Eve.
 - **1 Tim. 2:14** - “And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner.”
 - **God said to Adam: Gen. 3:17** - “Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you . . . Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. 18 It will produce thorns and thistles for you”
- Standing silent is the first step . . . Our next step is joining in.
 - We **rebel same way**. We stand silent, **cave in, join in** . . . we no longer condemn what happens. We want to **fit in**. Be liked.
 - **Rebellion says** – I want more. I lack. **Truth: had all they needed!**
 - Our **Rebellion** only makes life harder for us.
- Adam gives in to Peer Pressure b/c he wants Eve’s approval. Please her.
 - Beware of wanting to please people more than God.
 - It’s the beginning of a battle in your heart/ life. Gets u off course.

- **Gal. 1:10** – I’m not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ’s servant.”
 - Decide who to please... that’s the remedy for Peer Pressure.
- And these 2 verses might help:
 - **1 Cor. 15:58** – “Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”
 - **Rom. 12:2** – “Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God--what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.”

3rd Oldest Sin – Running Away from God.

- Eve doubted God’s truth & Adam succumbed to peer pressure, then they committed the 3rd Oldest Sin: *they tried to hide from God.*
 - They didn’t repent, they hid.
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4th Oldest Sin – Shifting the Blame

- Adam blamed Eve, and Eve blamed the serpent.
- Ever since that day, we’ve been doing the same.
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5th Oldest Sin – Fake Worship

Song/week - “Don’t Start Doubting Now” – by The Detty Sisters