

Faith and Love C.O.G.I.C Bible Band

Lesson 11 August 12, 2025
WHAT IS THE GREATEST SIN



Background Reading:

- **❖** Psalm 92:15
- ❖ John 7:18
- Romans 1:17-18; 29; 9:14; 6:13
- 1 Corinthians 15:56
- **❖** 1 John 1:7-9; 5:16-20

Devotional Reading:

❖ Romans 7:7-25



Background Reading

Psalm 92:15 To shew that the Lord is upright: he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

John 7:18 He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory: but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.

Romans 1:17-18

17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;



Background Reading

Romans 1:29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,

Romans 9:14 What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid.

Romans 6:13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

1 Corinthians 15:56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.



Background Reading

1 John 1:7-9

- 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.
- 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.



Background Reading

1 John 5:16-20

- 16 If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.
- **17** All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.
- **18** We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.
- 19 And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.
- **20** And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.



- 7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.
- 8 But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin was dead.
- **9** For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.
- **10** And the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death.



- 11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me.
- **12** Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.
- 13 Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.
- 14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.



- 15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.
- 16 If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good.
- 17 Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.
- **18** For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.



- 19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.
- **20** Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.
- 21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.
- **22** For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:



- **23** But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.
- **24** O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?
- 25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.



Central Verse

James 4:17

"Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is a sin."



INTRODUCTION

Sin is a key concept in the Bible. All unrighteousness is sin. Sin is a rebellion against God in words, deeds, or desires. It destroys the relationship between God and humans and has disastrous consequences for people's relationship with one another and their natural environment. But know that God has a solution for the problem of human sin. Sin is a separator from God and all sin needs to be atoned. But some sins merit greater punishment than others. Jesus told Pilate, "He who delivered me over to you has the greater sin" (John 19:11).



INTRODUCTION

Though Pilate would have to pay for the sentence that he allowed Jesus to receive, it was actually Caiaphas, the Jewish high priest, who coordinated the arrest and subsequent trial of Jesus (John 18:24, 28). It was Caiaphas, in conjunction with other religious authorities, who delivered Jesus into Pilate's custody.



DISCUSSION

In the eternal sense, there is no greater sin, for all sin is sin because all sin separates mankind from his creator God. All sins are mortal sins in that even one sin makes the offender worthy of spiritual death and eternal separation from God. James 2:10 tells the believer that if he offends at one point of the law, he is guilty of all the law. Whosoever committeth sin transgressed also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. We do not find in the scripture that there is the "greatest sin," but C.S. Lewis mentions in his writing that pride is the ultimate rebellion against God, and all the other sins are byproducts of pride. The Word of the Lord tells the believer that all that is in the world is "the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life" (1 John 2:16). It is a proven fact that these three are destructive to the human being; for these are not of God, but of the world.



Pride is so bad that God names it among the six deadly sins that He hates in Proverbs 6. Pride has terrible consequences in the lives of believers, and it should be dealt with by completely putting it out of their lives. Believers know that God hates sin and evil, but because He is a righteous God, He tolerates it in His world. He has made it possible for mankind to know and realize that the wage of sin is death. He made man with free will to make his own choices, to choose Him and live, or to choose sin and suffer the consequences of their choice. He gives man a choice in Deuteronomy 30:19 where He tells mankind, "I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing, therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live."



The Word of the Lord speaks of "the unpardonable sin" in Mark 3:22-30 and Matthew 12:22-32, and it is known as the unforgivable sin or "blasphemy of the Holy Spirit." Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all sins and every slander utter" (Mark 3:28), but then He gives one exception: "Whosoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin" (verse 29). This sin occurs when someone knows the power of the Holy Spirit and denies it (Matthew 12:24).



The Word also speaks of the sinfulness of sin. Sometimes, because a person gets so caught up in doing the things of the world, he gets out of control and finds himself in a place that he never thought he would ever get to. Sin becomes so sinful that it controls his mind, thoughts, actions, and feelings. The devil will take a man farther than he ever thought he could go in sin and keep him longer than he ever planned to stay.



The prodigal son never dreamed that he would work a job touching swine, something no respectable Jewish man would ever touch. But when he got caught up in the sin business it robbed him of everything that was decent in his life. So many people have allowed themselves to become hooked on habits that get out of control. Sin becomes sinful when mankind loses all sense of right and wrong, when they will believe a lie and be damned. That is when men will have sex with their own child, whether male or female.



DISCUSSION

It becomes sinful when a father is against his son and a son against his father. It becomes sinful when a mother is against her daughter and a daughter is against her mother. When men lose their natural affection for a woman and desire to lie with a man. And when a woman loses her natural desire for a man and desires to lie with a woman.



CONCLUSION

"The transgression of the wicked saith within my heart, that there is no fear of God before his eyes" (Psalm 36:1). Romans 3:23 tells the believer that "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." So, as believers go through life facing inconvenient situations, which are filled with pain, failure, humiliation, and powerlessness, not finding correct answers, they become objects of the devil's power, if they don't realize that their help and hope must come from God. God will give them the power to resist the devil so that the devil will flee from them. God does not want them to be caught up in the sin business. He wants them to flee from sin and all unrighteousness.



CONCLUSION

It is important that believers take sin seriously, and know that every challenge, every discouragement, should not cause them to forsake their commitment to God and slide back into the sin business. They must be committed to Jesus and follow Him; for He is a rewarder to those who trust and obey Him. To avoid sin, our lives must be those which obey God's word and shun the very appearance of evil. With Jesus on the inside, the believer can find joy in every circumstance that they encounter. When Christ is their Lord, He gives them the power to overthrow the enemy in every area of their lives. When Christ lives in the heart of the believer, sin must bow, it must flee. The bondages of the past must go.



ESSENTIAL THOUGHT

Sin is a reproach to any and all people.



NEXT LESSON

August 19, 2025

Lesson 12

Reasons for Going to Church