

Paul's Doctrine of Original Sin Disputed

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I do not believe the apostle Paul's doctrine of original sin – that all people are born with a sin nature after Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden. I believe they were given a free will to do right or to sin, and that we still have that free will. It wasn't taken away. That is why Yehovah told Cain, ***who was born after Adam and Eve sinned***, that he DID have the power to prevail over the sin that lay at the door - that sin that wanted him! We see that Cain instead used his free will to REBEL against what Yehovah said - and killed his brother.

[Genesis 4:1-8 KJV] 1 And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD. 2 And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. 3 And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. 4 And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: 5 But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. 6 And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? 7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee [shall be] his desire, and thou shalt rule over him. 8 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

The reason I bring this out is because Paul uses this doctrine of "original sin" as the basis of all his teaching in all of his letters.

My premise is that people have always had the ability to choose to do what was right.

That is why The Father was justified in destroying the world in the Flood, in punishing Sodom and Gomorrah, and even in punishing Israel for not keeping His Written Torah so severely, even exiling them from the Land. He knew that they COULD have obeyed Him, they just WOULD NOT obey Him!

I believe Enoch was righteous and did not have a sin nature even though he was born after Adam and Eve sinned. Yehovah said Enoch was righteous - he walked with God, so he must have used his free will to obey God. I believe others of Israel were righteous, such as Samuel and Daniel. They obviously strived to obey Yehovah and were not rebellious to His Commandments.

I do believe, because of the hardheartedness (rebellion) of the majority of the people of Israel and Judah, Yehovah had mercy on them (and even gentiles! Isaiah 49:1-6) and gave the New Covenant through faith in the blood of Yehoshua the Messiah that gave them a "new heart" (a soft heart) and "a new spirit" (the Holy Spirit- His Very Own Spirit – poured into them – Ezekiel 36:27), **that would cause them TO DESIRE TO OBEY HIM** and not to rebel against him. In the same Covenant, he promised forgiveness of their sins (Jeremiah 31:34), if they repented and turned to follow through with obedience to keep his Written Torah and all of the Words of YEHOShUA - His Chukot (statutes) and Mishpatiyim (judgements). If they didn't and still chose to live in rebellion to Him (**which we all know from experience that we can!**), they would still be punished and cut off in the judgement at Yehoshua's return - the Day of Yehovah (Ezekiel 11:14-21 and Matthew 7:19-23):

[Ezekiel 11:14-21 KJV] 14 Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, 15 Son of man, thy brethren, [even] thy brethren, the men of thy kindred, and all the house of Israel wholly, [are] they unto whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, Get you far from the LORD: unto us is this land given in possession. 16 Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Although I have cast them far off among the heathen, and although I have scattered them among the countries, yet will I be to them as a little sanctuary in the countries where they shall come. 17 Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel. 18 **And they shall come thither, and they shall take away all the detestable things thereof and all the abominations thereof from thence.** 19 **And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh:** 20 **That they may walk in my statutes (Chukot), and keep mine ordinances (Mishpatiyim) , and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God.** 21 **But [as for them] whose heart walketh after the heart of their detestable things and their abominations, I will recompense their way upon their own heads, saith the Lord GOD.**

[Matthew 7:19-23 KJV] 19 **Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.** 20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. 21 **Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.** 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 **And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.**

Bibliography:

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