



The Awful Cost of Sin!

Rom. 6:23 “For the **wages of sin is death**; but the gift of God is **eternal life through Jesus Christ** our Lord.”

1 Peter 1:18-19 “Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not **redeemed** with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your **vain conversation** received by tradition from your fathers; {19} But with the **precious blood of Christ**, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:”



Please consider these facts of that place called Hell:

- It is eternal – “everlasting punishment” (Matt. 25:46).
- A place where the worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched (Mark 9:44). The meaning is that the torments never cease!
- A place of no rest day or night (Rev. 14:11).
- A place of torment with fire and brimstone (Rev. 14:10).
- A place of outer darkness (Matt. 25:30).
- A place of weeping and gnashing of teeth (ibid.).
- It is an eternal place; no hope, never ending; no relief, day nor night forever and ever; no mercy extended there, no escape.
- It is described as a “lake of fire” (Rev. 20:15; 21:8).
- The majority will be there (Matt. 7:13,14,21-23).

“For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord”

Romans 6:23



Sound Words



“Hold fast the form of sound words”

SW

(2 Tim. 1:13 cp. Tit. 1:9; Jude 3)

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Sin

by Perry Sexton

Sin is ““a failing to hit the mark ... a sinning,” whether it occurs by omission or commission, in thought and feeling or in speech and action” [Thayer].

All have sinned: “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;” (Rom. 3:23). I have heard two people say they had never sinned. But God says, “If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us” (1 John 1:9). Of course we are speaking of those who are accountable.

Sin has terrible consequences: “For the wages of sin *is* death ...” (Rom. 6:23). All death comes from sin: “But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely **die**” (Gen. 2:17). Beginning here we find spiritual death, physical death, and eternal death. Death in every case involves a **separation: Physical death** entered into the world by sin (Rom. 5:12). **Spiritual death** is by sin, a separation from God (Gen. 3:6-27). **Eternal death** is brought about by physically dying in sin by one never obeying the gospel or by one who has obeyed the gospel but goes back into sin and dies therein (2 Thess. 1:8,9).

In order for God to save mankind “from their sins” (Matt. 1:21) Jesus had to die on the cross. As God’s people (those who have obeyed the gospel plan of salvation) we need to **know** and **remember** how terrible sin is. **How terrible is sin?** All who die in their sins will be “punished with everlasting destruction from [separation] the presence

of the Lord, and from the glory of his power” (2 Thess. 1:9; 2 Peter 2:20-22). Please see the back of this bulletin for a description of hell. Friends and brethren, there is nothing worth losing our souls over (Matt. 16:26).

Is sin just a joke? As I recall (I never watched the show), many years ago the comedian Flip Wilson made popular the saying, “The devil made me do it.” It is hard telling how many jokes have been made over this and in general the treating of sin as if it was and is a joke! But knowing the eternal consequences of sin and the great price Jesus paid we know it is no joking matter. As God’s people **we need to warn all** of the eternal consequences of sin. Please consider:

“Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. ¹⁸When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked *man* shall die in his iniquity; **but his blood will I require at thine hand.** ¹⁹Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul. ²⁰Again, When a righteous *man* doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumbling block before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; **but his blood will I require at thine hand.** ²¹Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous *man*, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul” (Eze. 3:17-21).

Old Testament, yes, but still true today. Read 2 Tim. 4:2,3. Paul said he was free from the blood of all men, how? “For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God” (Acts 20:27). And God forbid that we apologize for preaching the truth as some have done! Yet many will not preach on certain things as divorce and remarriage, forsaking the assembling, giving, immodest dress and a great host of other things.

What! Have we no word from the Lord on these matters? Are we warning against: unrighteousness, fornication, unscriptural marriages, idolatry, covetousness, adultery, homosexuality, thievery, drunkenness, lying, etc. (cp. 1 Cor. 6:9,10; Rev. 21:8)? Or do we believe that just because we (they) have been baptized we (they) have a free ticket to Heaven?

What would God have us to do concerning sin? Repent of all sin and obey His gospel (Acts 2:38). Having obeyed the gospel, thus our souls purified (1 Peter 1:22,23) is it okay to go back into sin? Read 2 Peter 2:20-22 for the worst consequences of such action. Paul asks the question, “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? ²**God forbid**.... (Rom. 6:1,2). That is clear enough, but consider these also: Jesus, who came to save us “from” our sins (Matt. 1:21) not as we continue in our sins, said to the impotent man, “Behold, thou art made whole: **sin no more**, lest a worse thing come unto thee” (John 5:7-14). Jesus likewise told the woman taken in adultery, “go, and **sin no more**” (John 8:11). To God’s covenant people Jesus said, “... **but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish**” (Luke 13:3,5). John wrote, “... **that ye sin not** ...” (1 John 2:1-2). For space sake please read what brother Guy N. Woods wrote on this in the *Gospel Advocate Commentary*.

Do we have to sin??? No!!! Who out there would say, “Yes”? Do you / we have to lie, kill, steal, commit adultery, continue to live in sin of any kind. Anyone who thinks so does not believe God. Not only do we have all the above Scriptures and much more, hear this: “There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God *is* faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it*” (1 Cor. 10:13). Often times the way of escape is simply to run away: **Joseph fled** (Gen. 39:10-12), a great example; Paul instructs, “**Flee fornication**” (1 Cor. 6:18); “**Flee also youthful lusts: but follow** righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart” (2 Tim. 2:22). Often times it is the case of making **right decisions**: Moses, “**Choosing** rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season” (Heb. 11:25).

But as Christians will we sin? If we live long enough after obeying the gospel, it is almost certain that we will sin again and likely many times in our struggles to live the Christian life. I highly suggest reading Woods above and also giving a thorough study of Romans 6 and related verses. And if and when we do find ourselves in sin let us repent and get our lives back on course (Col. 3:1-3; 1 John 2:15-17; Rom. 6). Never ever give up striving for Heaven. **God will help and there is a great host of Scriptures to encourage us, but we must do our part.** Please note the **conditions** of these verses: Rom. 6:16-18; 8:1,13; 1 John 1:5-10; **5:4**. ♥