



ANCHORED TO TRUTH

FOUNDATIONS OF THE FAITH

LESSON 3: SIN

Reading:

- ☐ Genesis 3
- ☐ Psalm 51:4
- ☐ 2 Chronicles 7:14
- ☐ Romans 5:12-14
- ☐ Ephesians 2:1-3
- ☐ James 1:14-15

Anchor Verse: *Attempt to memorize the following verse.*

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned. Romans 5:12

Introductions:

Have you ever experienced any of the following: broken relationships, injustice, abuse, violence, oppression, guilt, shame, or loss? Have you ever wondered why?

There are a lot of words in Scripture to describe sin: iniquities, transgressions, trespasses, wickedness, unrighteousness, lawlessness, rebellion, abomination, evil. Call it what you want, it's all sin and it has devastating eternal consequences.

Scripture tells us that we are all born under the curse of sin. We not only do sinful things, but our very thoughts and motives are sinful. Human beings are sinful by nature and live in a world that tempts and even encourages them to sin.

At some point in our lives we have all become aware of our tendency to sin. Sin is not just something we do, it's something we struggle to overcome, but why? The doctrine of original sin is foundational to the Christian faith.

Man's Greatest Problem:

A lot happened in the first three chapters of the Bible. God's perfect creation and design are on full display in the first two chapters, but now in chapter 3 we learn that man chose self sufficiency, disobedience, and death over communion with God and paradise.

*The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it **you shall surely die.**" Genesis 2:15-17*



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*Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “**Did God actually say**, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “**You will not surely die**. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” Genesis 3:1-5*

In these verses we see Satan encourage Eve to question God’s Word. He even misquoted God by saying, “You **will not** surely die.” While death wasn’t immediate, the effects of sin were. Adam’s decision to be disobedient to God meant that he and every descendant after him would be cursed with sin and its effects. In a single action, Adam chose for himself, and every human after him, death - physical death, spiritual death, and eternal death.

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. Ephesians 2:1-3

Everyone born after Adam is born dead in their trespasses, disobedient, living the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and mind, and children of wrath. But God loves us enough to not allow us to stay that way.

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. Romans 5:12-14

Jesus Sighting:

God the Father first reveals His plan to pay our debt for sin through the person and work of Jesus Christ in Genesis 3.

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.” Genesis 3:15

Reflection:

Is there unrepented sin in your life you need to confess to God?

Next Lesson:

Why does sin separate me from God?