

## The Bible and Original Sin (Part 2)

**Romans 5:12-15**

## The Doctrine Of Original Sin Is A Component Of Augustinian And Calvinistic Theology

- **Total Depravity** – Ezekiel 18:20; cf. Romans 3:23
- **Unconditional Election** – Ephesians 1:3; Galatians 3:26-27
- **Limited Atonement** – Hebrews 2:10
- **Irresistible Grace** – Romans 5:1; Acts 7:51
- **Perseverance of the Saints** – Galatians 5:4; Luke 8; Acts 8; Hebrews 3:13; 1 Corinthians 15:58; etc.

## ORIGINAL SIN

“In Christian theology the state of sin into which everyone is born as a result of the fall of Adam ... According to this, Adam’s sin has been transmitted from parent to child ever since. The human race has thus become a ‘lump of sin’ (*massa damnata*).”

JOHN BOWKER. “original sin”  
The Concise Oxford Dictionary of World Religions, 1997  
*Encyclopedia.com*

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## ORIGINAL SIN

“Original sin may be taken to mean: (1) the sin that Adam committed; (2) a consequence of this first sin, the hereditary stain with which we are born on account of our origin or descent from Adam. From the earliest times the latter sense of the word was more common, as may be seen by St.

Augustine’s statement: ‘the deliberate sin of the first man is the cause of original sin ...’”

New Advent Encyclopedia. “Original Sin”  
<http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/11312a.htm>

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## ORIGINAL SIN

“Our first parents, being seduced by the subtlety and temptation of Satan, sinned in eating the forbidden fruit ... By this sin they fell from their original righteousness and communion with God, and so became dead in sin, and wholly defiled in all the faculties and parts of soul and body.”

-The Westminster Confession of Faith  
Chapter VI, 1-2; The Book Of Confessions, 6.031- .032

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## ORIGINAL SIN

“From this original corruption, whereby we are utterly indisposed, disabled, and made opposite to all good, and wholly inclined to all evil, do proceed all actual transgressions.”

-The Westminster Confession of Faith  
Chapter VI, 4; The Book Of Confessions, 6.034

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## ORIGINAL SIN

“Original sin is the genetic defect we all inherited from Adam and Eve. Through this genetic defect we all inherited death – both physical and spiritual – and were separated from God. Through Jesus Christ, we all have the ability to conquer this genetic defect – sin and death – and be reconnected to God eternally.”

-<http://www.allaboutcreation.org/original-sin.htm>

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## ORIGINAL SIN

“**original sin** the tendency to evil supposedly innate in all human beings, held to be inherited from Adam in consequence of the Fall. The concept of original sin was established by the writings of St Augustine and the view of some early theologians that the human will is capable of good without the help of divine grace was branded a heresy.”

ELIZABETH KNOWLES. “original sin”  
The Oxford Dictionary of Phrase and Fable, 2006  
*Encyclopedia.com*

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## ORIGINAL SIN

“Man is so depraved that he is unable without the direct enabling power of the Holy Spirit to obey the Gospel of the son of God.” (J.B. Moody, Missionary Baptist, in Nashville Debate)

“I, by the natural birth am too wicked to live, too sinful to die, and too vile to meet God ... Total Hereditary Depravity means that man in his entire self is bad. He inherited this nature through the human race. I mean by total, that man is bad, mind, body and spirit.” (Albert Garner, Missionary Baptist in The Royal Birth A Life of Liberty, pages 8-9)

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## ORIGINAL SIN

1. The **whole human race sinned in Adam** when he sinned. Adam’s will was the will of the race, so that all men sinned in Adam and rebelled with him when he sinned.
2. When Adam sinned, **human nature was corrupted**, so that now all men are **born with a sinful nature**.
3. This sinful nature is the fountain and direct cause of all of man’s sins. **Man sins by nature and cannot help but sin.**

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## ORIGINAL SIN

4. Because of Adam’s transgression, **all men are guilty**, under the just “wrath and curse of God,” and are liable to the “pains of hell forever.”
5. Even **newborn babies** open their eyes in this world under the “wrath and curse” of God. They are guilty and condemned from the moment of their birth.

-*Are Men Born Sinners?*, A.T. Overstreet, chapter 3  
THE ORIGIN AND HISTORY OF THE  
DOCTRINE OF ORIGINAL SIN

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## ORIGINAL SIN

**“FOR WHAT SAITH THE  
SCRIPTURE?”**

**ROMANS 4:3**

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## MAN AND SIN

- God created man and woman without sin. Genesis 1:26-27; 2:25
- Adam and Eve chose to sin. Genesis 2:16-17; 3:1-6 (cf. 1 Timothy 2:14). So do we! Romans 6:16ff
  - Sin entered the world through Adam, and with it, death through sin. Romans 5:12
  - *“Therefore, as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin; and so death passed unto all men, for that all sinned”* Romans 5:12

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## SIN AND ITS GUILT

- **Individual.** Ezekiel 18:4, 20 (Genesis 2:17)
  - Consequences of individuals' sins often affect others – even future generations, Exodus 20:5 (34:7); Numbers 14:32-34
  - Physical death is a consequence of Adam's sin that passes to us all. Genesis 3:19 (Ecclesiastes 12:7)

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## NOT BORN WITH SINFUL NATURE

- Sin is chosen and committed, not inherited. Romans 5:12; 3:23

*“but each man is tempted, when he is drawn away **by his own lust**, and enticed. Then the lust, when it hath conceived, beareth sin: and the sin, when it is fullgrown, bringeth forth death.*  
James 1:14-15

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## NOT BORN WITH SINFUL NATURE

- God made man upright; we go away from God. Ecclesiastes 7:29; Romans 3:12 (Context)

➤ Children are innocent, not cursed.  
Matthew 18:3, *“Verily I say unto you, Except ye turn, and become as little children, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven.”*

➤ Paul's innocence was in childhood. Romans 7:9

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## NOT BORN WITH SINFUL NATURE

- **What about Jesus? Hebrews 4:14-15**

- Some say virgin birth exempted Him

➤ If so, what about Mary? Matthew 1:23

- **RCC: Immaculate Conception of Mary**

In the Constitution *Ineffabilis Deus* of 8 December, 1854, Pius IX pronounced and defined that the Blessed Virgin Mary “in the first instance of her conception, by a singular privilege and grace granted by God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the human race, was preserved exempt from all stain of original sin.”

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## NOT BORN WITH SINFUL NATURE

- **What about Jesus? Hebrews 2:14, 17**

➤ Bible: Jesus, like us, was not born with the guilt of sin. Hebrews 2:14, 17

➤ Bible: Jesus is the “*Son of Man*.” Luke 19:10

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## REDEMPTION FROM SIN

- Sin is not inherited. Colossians 3:5-7
  - Sinful nature is not inherited.
  - Sin is committed, practiced, lived in.
- Righteousness is not inherited. Romans 1:16-17; 3:21-26
  - Faithful nature is not inherited.
  - Faith is practiced, lived in.

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## JOB 14:1-4

- Job mourns life's brevity and travail
  - His complaint: Life is "*full of trouble*"
    - Asks God to "*look away*" and allow him to perish rather than prolong life's pain. 14:6, 13-14
  - A flower that fades. 14:2
    - Original sin has the flower faded from the start!
    - Job was "*perfect and upright*," not sinful in nature and under wrath. Job 1:8

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## PSALMS 51:5

- Note the influence of Calvinism in the translation.
  - a. "*Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.*" (ASV, NASV, NKJV). Psalms 51:5
  - b. "*Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.*" (NIV)
  - c. "*Indeed, I was guilty when I was born; I was sinful when my mother conceived me.*" (HCSB; Holman Christian Standard Bible)

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## PSALMS 51:5

- David was surrounded by sin from conception.
  - David had been surrounded by sin from conception – even his mother had sinned.
  - He confessed *his own sins*, not Adam's. Psalms 51:1-4, 7
  - Children do not know good or evil. Deuteronomy 1:39
  - cf. Psalms 51:5 with Acts 2:8

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## ROMANS 3:10

- No one is righteous (sinlessly perfect)
  - Because "*all have sinned.*" Romans 3:23
  - Nothing here about Adam's sin.
  - Nothing here about inheriting sin, guilt or wrath as a result of Adam's sin.

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## ROMANS 5:12-19

- Death in Adam, Life in Christ
  - Death passes to each one the same way it came upon Adam. 5:12
  - Adam is a type of Christ:
    - Just as Adam was the door through which sin and death came into the world.
    - Christ is the door through whom grace and justification came into world. Romans 5:14-16

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## ROMANS 5:12-21

- Death in Adam, Life in Christ.
  - If this verse teaches universal guilt and wrath (in Adam), then ...
  - It teaches universal justification (Christ) Romans 5:19

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## 1 CORINTHIANS 15:21-22

- Bodily death and resurrection.
  - Body dies as the result of (consequence of) Adam's sin. Genesis 3:19
  - If this verse is original sin, then it is also universal salvation. 1 Corinthians 15:22

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## EPHESIANS 2:3

- By nature children of wrath.
  - "Walked" in sin, being "disobedient." 2:2
  - Lustful conduct, fulfilling the desires of the flesh. 2:3
  - Nature: "a mode of feeling and acting which by long habit has become nature." (Thayer) cf. 1 Corinthians 11:14
    - Practice sin ... child of wrath.
    - Practice righteousness ... child of God. 1 John 2:29

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## HEBREWS 2:14-15

- All their lifetime subject to bondage.
  - Not until knowledge of and practice of sin. Deuteronomy 1:39; Romans 7:9
  - This verse refutes original sin, since Jesus shared in flesh and blood with us. Hebrews 2:17
    - Jesus never chose to sin – we did! Hebrews 4:14-16
    - He was "*flesh and blood*" to become the sacrifice for our sins. Hebrews 10:5, 10

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## MAN AND SIN

- The soul who sins shall die. Ezekiel 18:20
- The sins **YOU** have committed bring God's wrath upon **YOU**!
- So, cast away all your sins, repent and live. Ezekiel 18:30-32; Acts 2:37-38

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