

The Problem Of Sin

Genesis 3:1-6

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The Problem Of Sin

The Problem of WHAT (*What Sin Is*)

Sin is a transgression of the law of God

1. 1 John 3:4
2. Example: Adam and Eve.
 - a. The law: Genesis 2:17 – not eat of the fruit.
 - b. The sin: Genesis 3:1-6 – they ate of the fruit.

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The Problem of WHAT (*What Sin Is*)

*Can sin by **doing and also by not doing.***

1. When we do what is forbidden, we commit sin (James 2:9).
2. When we fail to do what is commanded, this omission is sin (James 4:17).

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The Problem Of WHO (*Who Sins*)

All men (whole world) sin

1. Romans 1-3 shows the need man has because all are in sin.
 - a. Romans 1 – The Gentiles are in sin.
 - b. Romans 2 – The Jews, likewise, are in sin.
 - c. Romans 3 – Concludes that **all are in sin (cf. verses 9, 23).**
2. 1 John 5:19 – whole world lies in wickedness.

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The Problem Of WHO (*Who Sins*)

Even good moral and religious people sin

1. Cornelius – Acts 10
 - a. A good moral man (Acts 10:2, 22).
 - b. Yet, he still needed to be saved from sin (Acts 10:6; 11:14).
2. Ethiopian Treasurer – Acts 8
 - a. A religious – dedicated man (Acts 8:27-28).
 - b. Yet, he still needed to be saved from sin (Acts 8:36).

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The Problem Of WHEN (*When One Becomes A Sinner*)

Not at birth.

1. Calvinism teaches *Total Hereditary Depravity. It says that one is born in sin.* That doctrine bred other doctrines and practices like: direct operation of the Spirit, unconditional election, and infant baptism.
2. Ezekiel 18 shows that sin is not inherited.

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The Problem Of WHEN (*When One Becomes A Sinner*)

At the point of becoming accountable before God.

1. Romans 7:9
2. How can one know he has reached that point?
 - a. Old enough to know and understand about Christ (John 8:24).
 - b. Old enough to know what one must do to be saved (Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38).
 - c. Old enough to sin – can recognize it in your life (Acts 22:16)

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The Problem Of WHY (*Why Sin Is A Problem*)

Sin separates from God.

1. Isaiah 59:1–2, “Behold, Jehovah’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: but your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, so that he will not hear.”
2. Death (spiritual separation from God).
 - a. Ezekiel 18:4
 - b. Romans 5:12
 - c. Romans 6:23
 - d. James 1:15

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The Problem Of WHY (*Why Sin Is A Problem*)

Sin will keep us out of heaven (John 8:21).

The reason for obeying the gospel is – man is in sin. He has a need!

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The Problem Of HOW (*How To Deal With The Problem*)

Saved by the grace of God (Ephesians 2:8; Titus 3:4–7).

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The Problem Of HOW (*How To Deal With The Problem*)

God’s grace provided a sacrifice (Hebrews 2:9).

1. Sin (being a violation of the law) demands that a penalty be paid.
2. Man cannot pay. He has nothing to offer.
 - a. He cannot clear himself.
 - b. He can only face the consequence – Hell (Romans 6:23).
3. God has always demanded blood sacrifice.
 - a. Life is in the blood (Leviticus 17).
 - b. Animal sacrifice could not remove sin (Hebrews 10:4).
 - c. The perfect sacrifice was the blood of Christ (1 Peter 1:18–19).
4. He died for our sins so we would not have to be lost! (Matthew 26:28; Hebrews 9:22).

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The Problem Of HOW (*How To Deal With The Problem*)

Receiving the benefits of God’s grace is conditional.

1. Hebrews 5:8–9; 1 Peter 1:22 – Obedience required.

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The Problem Of HOW (*How To Deal With The Problem*)

What are the conditions? What must one do to be saved?

1. Hear – Romans 10:17; Acts 2:22
2. Believe – John 8:24; Acts 2:36
3. Repent – Acts 17:30–31; Acts 2:38
4. Confess that you believe – Romans 10:9–10; Acts 8:37
5. Be baptized – Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38

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The Problem Of HOW (*How A Christian Deals With The Problem*)

What are the conditions? What must a Christian do to be saved? Revelation 2:10; 1 Corinthians 15:58

1. Repent and Pray. Acts 8:22; James 5:19–20
2. Confess. James 5:16; 1 John 1:9
3. How broad must our confession be? Hebrews 4:13; Matthew 18:15; James 5:16; Galatians 2:11–14

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The Problem Of HOW (*How To Deal With The Problem*)

The very nature of the problem suggests urgency in dealing with sin.

1. Consequences if one dies in sin:
 - a. If one dies in sin – can't go to Heaven (John 8:21–24).
 - b. If one dies in sin – spend eternity in Hell (Romans 6:23).
2. Danger of delay:
 - a. Christ could return – (1 Thessalonians 5:2).
 - b. You could die (Hebrews 9:27).

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Conclusion:

1. Indeed, sin is the greatest problem we face.
2. If we overcome this problem, all others are much easier to handle.

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