

THE EASTSIDE EXAMINER

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SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

Sunday morning worship (Bible Study) 9:30 AM
Sunday morning worship (Preaching) 10:30 AM
Sunday evening worship (Preaching) 4:00 PM
Wednesday evening worship (Bible Study) .. 7:00 PM

SIN, ITS RESULTS AND REMEDY

By Jerry L. Henderson

The Bible in Rom. 3:23 says: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; (KJV). Then in Rom. 6:23 the Bible says: For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (KJV). So, the greatest problem among mankind is sin. If every human being would solve the problem of sin, we would live in a most wonderful world. As you think with me about sin, I want to consider how we sin; look at the results of sin and then find in the Bible the remedy for sin.

But before we look at the "how"; "results" and "remedy" regarding sin, I want to define just what sin is or what it means to sin. The English word "sin" according to Thayer's Greek English Lexicon comes from the Greek word "hamartia". Thayer defines it as: to miss the mark; to err, be mistaken; to miss or wander from the path of uprightness and honor; to do or go wrong; to wander from the law of God or violate God's law. This particular Greek word was one that would be used when an arrow fell short of its mark. So, it has to do with missing the mark and in our case as humans it is not coming up to the standard of God's will and His will is contained in His Word which was revealed by the Holy Spirit and was written down for us by men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit as the apostle Paul reveals in 2Tim. 3:16-17, where the Bible says: All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. (KJV).

Now, consider with me how we sin. We can sin in thought which also involves attitude. In regard to the people of Noah's day the Bible in Gen. 6:5 says: And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. (KJV). These words of Jesus are recorded in Matt. 15:19: For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: (KJV). But not only do we sin in thought, we also can sin in our words. The Bible in Psa. 39:1 records these words of David: I said, I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me. (KJV). Thoughts and words are translated into deeds, that is what we actually do. These are referred to as sins of commission. Jhn. 3:19 says: And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. (KJV). Then in 1Jhn. 3:4 the Bible says Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. (KJV). The idea of the word "committeth" is actually doing something and that "something" is contrary to the law of God. Finally, we can sin by not doing what we ought to do, that is, be negligent. This is referred to as sins of omission. In Jas. 4:17 the Bible says: Therefore, to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin. (KJV).

It would be futile to talk about sin and what it is and not talk about the results of sin. The far-reaching results of sin we cannot fully know, this is only fully known to God. However, the Bible does tell us something of the consequences of sin. The consequences of the first sin is well known. You will note that in Gen. 1:28 man was given dominion over all things. Some think this may have been taken from man and given to Satan. For further study on this, look at the following Scriptures. Lk. 4:6; Jhn. 14:30; 16:11 and Eph. 2:2. Regardless of whether this thinking is true or not, their sin had an adverse effect on the earth and all creation. See Gen. 3:17,18 and Rom. 8:22,23. As a result of their sin physical death passed upon the whole human race as revealed in Rom. 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: (KJV). We do not inherit Adam's sin, but rather the consequences of his sin. So, the consequences of sin passed to all mankind. These consequences of man's sin in the beginning was physical death as well as spiritual death. The word "death" simply means "separation". In physical death the spirit of man, that is, that which animates the physical body, is separated from the fleshly body. In spiritual death, mankind, God's creation, is separated from God. As a result of man's sin in the garden of Eden, man was driven from the garden and separated from the tree of life, hence man began to die physically. But man was also driven from the presence of God, separated from God which is spiritual death. But what about the consequences of any sin - your sin and mine? The Bible in Ezek. 18:20 records the consequences of sin in these words: The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him. (KJV). As noted above we die physically because of Adam's sin, but we do not die spiritually because of Adam's sin but rather because of our own sin. The Bible in Isa. 59:2 says: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear. (KJV). So, it is my own personal sin that separates me from God and that is spiritual death. Sin also brings shame and disgrace upon the guilty and incurs the disfavor of the righteous. Prov. 29:27 says: An unjust man is an abomination to the just: and he that is upright in the way is abomination to the wicked. (KJV). And according to what is recorded in Eph. 2:12 as a result of sin, man has no hope and is without God. This shows us the eternal consequences of sin. According to 1Cor. 6:9-10 and Rev. 21:2 those guilty of sin will miss heaven and all its beauty. But not only will those in sin miss heaven they will be cast into hell according to Rev. 21:8; Matt. 25:41 and Rev. 20:10.

However, we must all be thankful to God that He has provided a remedy for sin. A remedy is something that corrects or counteracts an evil. Or we might refer to it as a prescription, which is a written direction for a therapeutic or corrective agent. So, to be saved or to avoid the consequences of sin, man must cooperate with God, because it is God who has provided this remedy. God has already completed His part of this remedy. Following mankind's sin in the beginning, God promised to send a Savior. Gen. 3:15 says: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. (KJV). This is in reference to what happened in Jesus being put to death and then His resurrection from the dead. God fulfilled this promise. Christ came Lk. 2:11; Jhn. 3:16; Gal. 4:4,5; He died, was buried and arose 1Cor. 15:3,4; Acts 17:31. Jesus and what He did was revealed in the Gospel 2Pet. 1:3; Rom. 1:16,17. He became the author of salvation to all who will obey him Heb. 5:8,9 and He invites all to come to him Matt. 11:28. Even though God's part in this remedy has been completed, man also has a part in this remedy. Just as a doctor may write a prescription for medicine for an illness and the druggist fills the prescription, but it does no good unless the person takes the medicine. So, it is that man must follow the directions given in the Gospel of Christ; the prescription God gave that will save man from sin. God will not force man to submit, that is, take the prescription Heb. 5:8,9. Man must learn God's requirement 2Tim. 2:15. The Scriptures (God's prescription) teaches that man must have faith Heb. 11:6 and that faith is produced by hearing God's word Rom. 10:17. One must repent, that is, be sorry for their sins and turn from them 2Pet. 3:9; Lk. 13:3. The Scriptures teach that a person must publicly confess their faith in Jesus as the Son of God Rom. 10:9,10; Acts 8:37 and then be baptized for, or in order to have the remission of sins Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:3,4; Gal. 3:27. The individual must then be faithful to the Lord and his teaching till death in order to avoid the eternal consequences of sin 1Cor. 15:58; Rev. 2:10. As we have noted everyone has sinned or is a sinner Rom. 3:23; 1Jhn. 1:8,10. Unless you take advantage of the remedy (that which counteracts sin) you will suffer ETERNAL consequences for your sins in hell! 2Cor. 6:2 says now is the time. Why not take advantage of the divine prescription now?