

# SINNING

What is “sinning”? The biblical definition is given in Samuel

*1 Sam 15: 23 KJV*

*22 And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.*

*23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.*

We see there are three categories of sinning that are declared

## ✚ Missing the mark

*James 4:17 KJV*

*Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.*

## ✚ Rebellion

*Isa 53:6 KJV*

*All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

## ✚ Stubbornness

*Matt 12:3 KJV*

*31 Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.*

*32 And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come.*

## Stubbornness

The scripture states that stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. The judgment for idolatry is eternal death. This type of sinning is commonly known as the “*unpardonable sin*”. The biblical definition for this type of sinning is:

*Perversion of life (a twisting out of the right way), a perversion of truth (a twisting into error), or a perversion of intent (a bending of rectitude into willful disobedience).*



There is no remedy for stubbornness...only eternal death.

*Heb 6:4 KJV*

*4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,  
5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,  
6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.*

How do I know when NOT to pray for someone who has committed the unpardonable sin? By a divine spirit of discernment and loss of a heartfelt burden. If God removes the burden to pray for someone, you will experience a “cold” chill in your spirit and sense the smell of death. There will also be no “sadness” only “disappointment” and “sorrow”.

*1 John 5:16 KJV*

*If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.*

The unpardonable sin is not word or deed; it is a conscious decision to separate oneself from the living God...”a twisting out of rectitude into willful disobedience” intending never to return.



Witness a tree that falls to the ground and begins a metamorphosis from wood to stone. An example is the Petrified Forest. Up to the “point of no return” the wood is fibrous and can be preserved. But after the threshold is reached, fiber turns into stone – a process that cannot be reversed.

*1 John 5:17 KJV*

*17 All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.  
18 We know that whosoever is born of God **sinneth not**; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.  
19 And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.  
20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.*

No born again Christian who really loves the Lord can commit the “unpardonable” sin. As David before him, the born again Christian will not cross the threshold because of the dreaded fear that the Spirit of the Lord will depart from his life or worst yet that he will be cast away from the presence of the Lord. The born again Christian will do anything in order to walk again with Him.

*Ps 51:11 KJV*

*11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.*

Ps 27:9 KJV

Hide not thy face far from me; put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.



## Two Immutable Laws

There exist two powerful immutable laws...*the law of sin and death* which resides in Satan's domain – the world and *the law of grace and life* which resides in Jesus' domain – the kingdom of God.

Rom 7:14 KJV

14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.

16 If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good.

17 Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

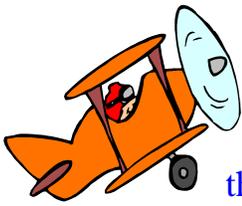
As we walk in the world, our flesh is always subject to the law of sin and death. Remember, when Adam sinned, God cursed the earth from which he was created. And so our flesh is subject to the law of sin and death.

Gen 3:19 KJV

In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.



“We” {our circumcised heart} can overcome this law by invoking the law of grace and life which counteracts Satan's law of sin and death {good news}. But if we stop invoking the law of grace and life, we will fall {bad news}.



The law of sin and death is akin to the law of gravity...it always is there. You cannot make it go away. In order to be able to fly, you must employ another law which can overcome the law of gravity...it is Bernoulli's law. As long as your vehicle has airfoils and an engine that is working, you can fly. If the engine stops or the airfoil breaks, you will come crashing down to the earth because of gravity! Bernoulli's law is akin to the law of grace and life.

*Gal 2:20 KJV*

*I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*

Let us consider and understand the seriousness, consequences, and remedy of sinning. Every soul has a prevailing weakness that remains within us according to the law of sin and death and which we must overcome on a daily basis. Not only did Jesus gain eternal life for us at the cross, but He also established the power to overcome transgressions before they become sin through the law of grace and life.

*James 1:14 KJV*

*14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.  
15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.*

But first we must learn the difference between “transgression” and “sinning”. Transgression means to “walk at cross purposes with God's will”. This happens frequently. But then we reach that fork in the road when a decision is required. If we choose the straight path according to His will, there is no sin. If we choose the path that goes away from God's will, we enter into sin



*Ps 32:1 KJV*

*1 Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.  
2 Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.*

Do we ever choose the path away from God? Of course we do. John addresses this:

*1 John 1:8 KJV*

*8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

Remember that “sinning” is an act of the will and NOT an action or thing. If I use a .44 magnum pistol and shoot someone dead, there is nothing wrong with the gun, the bullet, or the death. Everything happened as it was designed to happen.

Therefore, sinning is an intent of the heart. Remember Jesus said that if you break one of the commandments you have broken them all! The intent to deprive that someone of his life is evil and that is what is subject to God's judgment.



Let us now consider what happens when we fall either by missing the mark or rebelling against God. When this happens, there is a seriousness and consequences of our decision. Our sinning affects our relationship with God, with others, and with ourselves.

It affects our relationship with God because it is a betrayal of His love for us  
We become as Peter denying him...

*John 14:23 KJV*

*If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.*

*24 He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings:*



It affects our relationship with others because our sinning will give bad example and the appearance of hypocrisy whereby we deny Jesus as the Lord of our lives and bring dishonor to his name.

Remember there is no sin that will remain hidden...

*Luke 12:2 KJV*

*2 For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known.*

*3 Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops.*

It affects our relationship with ourselves because we fail to fulfill our destiny and disappoint Father-God. The sting of failure brings shame and disapproval of ourselves. The cock has crowed, and we will weep bitterly...

*Luke 22:61 KJV*

*61 And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.*

*62 And Peter went out, and wept bitterly.*



Now that we know the seriousness and the consequences, we must be made aware of the retribution that is required when we repent. Retribution means to "pay back" or "restore" that which was taken or destroyed. There is only one way - through repentance.

*Ps 51:1 KJV*

*1 Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.*

*2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.*

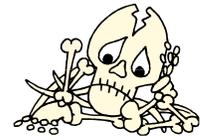
*3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.*

*4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.*

*5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.*

*6 Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.*

*7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.*



**We have the example of David who in the anguish of his soul, cried out to God...**

*Ps 51:10 KJV*

*10 Create in me a **clean heart**, O God; and renew a **right spirit** within me.*

*11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.*

*12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.*

*13 Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.*

*14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.*

*15 O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise.*

*16 For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering.*

*17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a **broken and a contrite heart**, O God, thou wilt not despise.*



**Thus we see that repentance requires three things:**

**🦁 A clean heart...** which only God can create {to create means to transform from one state to another} when we allow His truth to enter our inward part {our soul} and His wisdom to enter our hidden part {our spirit}

*John 8:31 KJV*

*If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;*

*32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*

*Prov 3:13 KJV*

*13 Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.*

**🦁 A right spirit...** when we acknowledge his Lordship over our lives

*Prov 3:5 KJV*

*5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.*

*6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.*

*7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.*

🐦 **A broken and contrite heart**...submission with all our love because the desire of our heart is to be a servant and friend

*Jer 18:4 KJV*

*4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.*

It is the distraction and enticement caused by the flesh, the world, and Satan that leads us astray into transgressing and sinning against God. Doing Good...being sensitive to the Spirit in our daily lives...will overcome sinning and thereby put into effect the law of grace and life.

*1 Thess 5:15 KJV*

*15 See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.*

*16 Rejoice evermore.*

*17 Pray without ceasing.*

*18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.*

*19 Quench not the Spirit.*

*20 Despise not prophesyings.*

*21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.*

*22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.*

*23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*24 Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.*



And what is “grace”? It is the **presence** and **influence** of God in our lives. The **presence**...

*Ex 33:11 KJV*

*11 And the LORD Spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend.*



...and the **influence**

*Col 3:16 KJV*

*16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.*

*17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.*