

# Don't Get Swallowed up in Sin!

Scripture Reading: **Genesis 3:1-11**

## Introduction

1. **America is faced with a misunderstanding regarding the nature and consequences of sin.**
  - A. **Christians need to guard themselves against becoming a victim to society's definition of sin or sin will be minimized in their eyes.**
  
2. **The record of the beginning of sin is related in Genesis chapters 2-3. What led to sin?**
  - A. **Created Adam & Eve**
  - B. **Put them in the Garden to keep it and dress it (Gen 2:15)**
  - C. **Commanded them:**

Gen 2:16-17 "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; "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."

- D. **Devil appeared to Eve in the form of a serpent**
  - E. **Deceived her and persuaded her to eat of the forbidden fruit**
  - F. **She then persuaded Adam to eat the fruit**
  - G. **God appeared to them and pronounced curses upon them**
  - H. **Excluded them from the Garden and access to the tree of life**
  
3. **Sin was born and the only way man can deal with it is to look at sin honestly and understand it for what it **really is.****

## What Is Sin?

1. **Society has lost any real understanding of sin. It is explained as:**

- A. **A violation of society's code of ethics**
- B. **A violation of one's personal code of ethics**
- C. **A violation of rules taught to him by his parents**

1) **Sin is NONE of these!**

2. **Sin is a violation of the Word of God.**

I Jn 3:4 **Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness.**

A. **The violation of one's conscience is sin;**

Rom 14:23 But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because he does not eat from faith; for whatever is not from faith is sin.

James 4:17 Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.

### **WHY?**

1) **Because it violates God's word which demands the maintaining of a pure conscience.**

3. **Adam and Eve's disobedience was considered sin simply because they violated what God said.**

A. **So what's the big deal about eating the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil? It seems it would be no different than any other fruit.**

1) **What made the eating of the fruit of one tree right and the other tree wrong was that God said "Thou Shalt not..."**  
(Simple to understand, yet ignored)

2) **Sin is the violation of God's law!**

## **Sin Is Sin**

### **(No matter what you want to call it)**

**1. Should present trends continue, the so-called Christian will altogether remove the word "sin" from the Bible.**

**A. Whether or not that happens, God still calls sin, sin.**

- 1) There's no little or big sin. All transgression is sin!**
- 2) When finished, sin brings forth death.**

James 1:15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

**2. Yet, some Christians have the idea that they have not sinned, they have made a "mistake."**

**A. Unrepentant sin will send one to Hell - even one sin.**

- 1) One sin kept Moses from entering the land of Canaan (Num 20:12; Deut 34:4).**
- 2) One sin killed Nadab and Abihu (Lev 10:1-2).**
- 3) One sin killed Uzzah - who thought he was doing right by steadying the Ark of God (2 Sam 6:6-7).**

**3. The world has impacted many Christians today, in that some Christians have the idea that they can commit any type of sin and get by with it.**

**A. Did Adam, Moses, Nadab & Abihu, and Uzzah get by with it? Why is it that many today think that they will get by with it?**

**B. The Bible condemns many things that some Christians have engaged in.**

**1) Divorcing for any reason, then remarrying**

Matt 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery."

**2) Fornication, adultery, stealing, covetousness.**

1 Cor 6:9-10 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.

**3) Bad Language**

**a) Be careful - just because others talk bad and its everywhere, that doesn't make it right.**

Eph 4:29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.

**4) Abortion is murder (regardless of what every pro-choice person in the world says about this; they are not God.**

Isa 49:5 "And now the LORD says, who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant....."

**4. God tells us exactly how He feels about sin. Not only toward those who practice lawlessness - but those who go along with it!**

**Galatians 5:19-21**

**Romans 1:16-32**

**A. God will simply be carrying out the sentence that we asked Him to give us when we sin!**

## Live for God

### 1. **Knowing that Sin results in eternal condemnation, how should we live?**

2 Pet 3:10-11 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, **what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,**

### 2. **The apostle Paul answers that question:**

Rom 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

#### A. **We can either serve God or Mammon, but not both (Matt 6:24).**

Matthew 6:24 No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve God and mammon.**

#### B. **Only God's way will lead to eternal life (Matt 7:21).**

II Jn 1:9 Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. **He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.**

### 3. **Those that don't know God or obey God will suffer an everlasting destruction (2 Thes 1:7-9).**

#### A. **One sin will send you to an eternal damnation.**

1) **Some might attach another name to sin to make it look innocent or disguise it; however, God says sin is sin!**

2) **Therefore we must study to see what God calls sin.**

**Conclusion**

- 1. We must be careful not to become influenced by the thoughts of our day which minimize the seriousness of sin.**
- 2. Sin is an act of transgression of God’s law. It was so serious that only the death of God in the flesh could atone for it.**
- 3. Sin occurs when man, of his own will, chooses to disobey God.**
  - A. Its consequence is separation from God, spiritual death.**
- 4. In order to have an adequate appreciation for the gift of God’s grace, we must understand the seriousness of the problem of sin.**
  - A. Do you love Jesus? (John 14:15)**
    - 1) If so.....then don’t get swallowed up in sin!**

**Invitation**

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 Richard Thetford, March 2008 (re-accomplished from previous sermon - Based on articles by Mike Willis (GOT Dec 6, 1984), and Eric Norford (GOT Mar 21, 1991).