

Sin

A Series on Understanding Accountability

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned (Rom 5:12). What is sin and how is this related to temptation?

1. Culture defines sin as the commission of an act, an action of behavior. How does the Bible define sin (Jam 1:14-15; 1 Pet 1:14)? Contrast this definition with the Greatest Commandment (Mark 12:29-30)? How would you define sin?

2. With a better understanding of sin, what is temptation (Mark 4:19; John 8:44)? How does this perspective help you (1 Thes 4:3-5; 1 Pet 4:1-3)? Discuss all the observations you see about the “old self” and “new self” (Rom 13:13-4; Gal 5:16-24; Eph 2:1-3; 4:20-24; 2 Pet 1:4).

3. When you have a good grasp of God’s word and an understanding of His definition of terms, you’ll understand the sin in the Garden (Gen 3:4-6) and God’s statement to Cain (Gen 4:6-7). You’ll also understand why it was impossible for Jesus to consider sin (Matt 4:1-10). As you review these events, do you see how deceit works? For greater discussion, share your observations in the context of deceit (Jer 17:7-10; Rom 1:24-25; Tit 3:3; Heb 5:11-14; 1 John 2:15-17)?

4. What does Satan test when he tempts? What does God test when He tempts?

5. How does the Holy Spirit help you overcome sin (John 14:16-17, 26; 15:26; Heb 13:5-9)?