



**Lecture # 5**

**Bible Doctrine I- TH-110**

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**Course Information**

**1. Course Description**

A study of the persons of The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit and their unified teaching of the doctrines of the Bible.

## **Survey of the Doctrines of the Bible**

### **VI-The Doctrine of Sins**

**1-Personal Sins**

**Rom. 3:23**

**2-Sin Nature**

**Psalm 51:5**

**3-Imputed Sin**

**Rom. 5:12**

**4-Backsliding**

**Jer. 3:22**

**5-Leaven**

**Lev. 2:11**

**6-Apostasy**

**2 Thess. 2:3**

**7-Pollution by Sin**

**1 Cor. 5:6**

**8-Penalty of Sin**

**Rom. 6:23**

**9-Flesh**

**Rom. 8:13**

## **Introduction to Doctrinal Footnotes**

These theological footnotes are divided into three sections **(1) explanation**, **(2) illustration**, and **(3) application**. When you have absorbed all the notes within one topic area, you will have completed a total survey of that doctrine.

### **VI-The Doctrine of Sins**

#### **Hamartiology–Doctrine of Sin**

##### **The Definition and Nature of Sin**

**Hamartiology**, a branch of Christian theology, studies sin. Substantial branches of hamartiological understanding, including Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, Continental Reformed, and Reformed Baptist subscribe to the doctrine of original sin, which the Apostle Paul espouses in **Romans 5:12-19** and which Augustine of Hippo popularized in the West and developed into a notion or idea of “**hereditary guilt**”.

What is sin? Where does sin come from?

##### **I. What is sin?**

###### **A. A definition**

- Sin is lack of conformity to the law of God, either in act, disposition, or nature.



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- It is both an act and a principle, both guilt and pollution.

**B. The components**

**1. God's Law**

**i. What is the law of God?**

- God's moral law is an expression of His holiness (His fundamental and governing moral attribute), which in turn creates a demand for perfect conformity to His holiness, i.e. to the **"moral requirement"**.

**ii. What is the nature of God's law?**

Law is a necessary component of God's nature

- It is not an arbitrary product of God's will. Law is a necessary expression of God's nature; it is no mere arbitrary decree of right/wrong. Law comes from the revelation of God's nature; therefore, it is something of intrinsic value. It is not rash or unwise in any way.

- All the commands and prohibitions of the Mosaic Law, for example, have their ultimate source in God; that is, the ultimate and most primitive basis for law is God's being and activity.

– Certain expressions of God's Moral Law in the Mosaic commands appear to be almost arbitrary in nature. E.g., the separation laws.

– These laws express God's holiness. The prohibitions themselves do not seem to be intrinsically moral, but they display God's holy nature.

**iii. What does law demand?**

**a. Perfect obedience**

- The moral law of God's holiness requires positive obedience.
- In other words, the satisfaction of prohibitions cannot be delivered without the positive expression of holiness
- Perfection is required of man in all areas. It is not addressed only to one aspect of man's being.

**b. Inexcusable ignorance**

- God's law exists and operates whether men recognize it or not. Ignorance is no excuse.
- God's law cannot be modified; it cannot be adapted to the ability of man.

**iv. The requirements of God's law**

- God's moral law requires **likeness to God** in affections and tendencies of the nature as well as in outward acts.



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- God Himself is holy in more than just His acts. So He demands the same from creatures in His image.
- The standard is God’s perfect holiness, but no one can meet it. The statement “**If I ought, I can**” and its corollary, “**if I cannot, I am not liable,**” do not hold good in this realm.

**2. What is “lack of conformity”?**

Sin is more than mere acts; sin is a disposition. It operates in man’s nature. Anything anywhere that is unlike God is ungodly.

- All unrighteousness is sin – [1 John 5:17](#)  
[1 John 5:17 \(NASB\)](#)  
<sup>17</sup> **All unrighteousness is sin, and there is a sin not *leading* to death.**
- Sin is lawlessness – [1 John 3:4](#)  
[1 John 3:4 \(NASB\)](#)  
<sup>4</sup> **Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness.**
- Whatever is not of faith is sin – [Romans 14:23](#)  
[Romans 14:23 \(NASB\)](#)  
<sup>23</sup> **But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because *his eating is not from faith; and whatever is not from faith is sin.***
- Not acting on righteousness – [James 4:17](#)  
[James 4:17 \(NASB\)](#)  
<sup>17</sup> **Therefore, to one who knows *the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.***

**II. Where does sin come from?**

**A. Born in sin – [Psalm 51:5](#)**

[Psalm 51:5 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>5</sup> **Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me.**

**B. The heart – [Jeremiah 17:9](#) (cf. [Hosea 10:2](#), [Hebrews 4:12](#)), [Matthew 15:19](#)**

[Jeremiah 17:9 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>9</sup> **The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can understand it?**

[Hosea 10:2 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> **Their heart is faithless; Now they must bear their guilt. The LORD will break down their altars *And* destroy their *sacred* pillars.**

[Hebrews 4:12 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>12</sup> **For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.**

[Matthew 15:19 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>19</sup> **For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.**



C. Sin is more than just actions – [Ex 20:17](#), [Lev 19:17](#), [Matthew 5:27-29](#)

[Exodus 20:17 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>17</sup> You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife or his male servant or his female servant or his ox or his donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

[Leviticus 19:17 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>17</sup> You shall not hate your fellow countryman in your heart; you may surely reprove your neighbor, but shall not incur sin because of him.

[Matthew 5:27-29 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>27</sup> You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY';

<sup>28</sup> but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

<sup>29</sup> If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

• [John 8:34](#), [Romans 6:12](#)

[John 8:34 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>34</sup> Jesus answered them, Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin.

[Romans 6:12 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>12</sup> Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts,

D. Sin may be involuntarily committed

Not all sin is voluntarily, consciously committed. Deliberate intention to sin is not essential to constitute any given act or feeling of sin ([Psalm 19:12](#), cf. [Luke 12:48](#)).

[Psalm 19:12 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>12</sup> Who can discern *his* errors? Acquit me of hidden *faults*.

[Luke 12:48 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>48</sup> But the one who did not know *it*, and committed deeds worthy of a flogging, will receive but few. From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more.