

Understanding Sin

Chapter 11

Now to our most un-favorite subject: SIN.

11.1 What is Sin?

Sin is what keeps us from the Glory of God. Sin is what really kills everyone. Sin has no degree of difference. Sin is always simple. Sin is what we are born in, thanks to Adam and Eve our great, great, great Grand parents. Sin is passed down through our parents, more specifically the blood of our father. Sin is the reason Jesus died on the cross, to be the perfect sacrifice for our sins, so that Our Father in heaven can forgive us and save us from the ultimate death: hell.

RO 2:5 “But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when His righteous judgment will be revealed. [6] God "will give to each person according to what he has done." [7] To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. [8] But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. [9] There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile; [10] but glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. [11] For God does not show favoritism.

RO 2:12 “All who sin apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law. [13] For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God's sight, **but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous.** [14] **(Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law,** [15] since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them.) [16] This will take place on the day when God will judge men's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.

RO 2:17 “Now you, if you call yourself a Jew; if you rely on the law and brag about your relationship to God; [18] if you know His will and approve of what is superior because you are instructed by the law; [19] if you are convinced that you are a guide for the blind, a light for those who are in the dark, [20] an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of infants, because you have in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth-- [21] you, then, who teach others, do you not teach yourself? You

who preach against stealing, do you steal? [22] You who say that people should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? [23] You who brag about the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law? [24] As it is written: "God's name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you."

11.2 Original Sin

Here is where it all started. In the end you see that God put a curse on us. This is placed on and in man. You can see how God intended for man and women of sin will live. You can now also see how going against this intention is also more sin.

GE 2:25 "The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt **no shame**.

GE 3:1 "Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

GE 3:2 "The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, [3] but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.' "

GE 3:4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. [5] "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

GE 3:6 "When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. [7] Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

GE 3:8 "Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as He was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. [9] But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

GE 3:10 "He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

GE 3:11 "And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

Sin

GE 3:12 "The man said, "The woman you put here with me--she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

GE 3:13 "Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

GE 3:14 "So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this,

**"Cursed are you above all the livestock
and all the wild animals!
You will crawl on your belly
and you will eat dust
all the days of your life.**

GE 3:15 And I will put enmity
**between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will crush your head,
and you will strike his heel."**

GE 3:16 To the woman he said,
**"I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing;
with pain you will give birth to children.
Your desire will be for your husband,
and he will rule over you."**

GE 3:17 "To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,'

**"Cursed is the ground because of you;
through painful toil you will eat of it
all the days of your life.**

GE 3:18" It will produce thorns and thistles for you,
and you will eat the plants of the field.

GE 3:19 "By the sweat of your brow
**you will eat your food
until you return to the ground,
since from it you were taken;
for dust you are
and to dust you will return."**

This shows that it was because of their disobedience that they sinned. This also shows that their disobedience was of the worse kind. Until they committed this particular

Sin

sin, they were innocent. They did not know that they were naked or that they should be ashamed of being naked in front of God. They not only sinned and were condemned to death, they also lost their innocence. They now have the knowledge of good and bad. That is also why the serpent was able to deceive them. They were gullible, but they knew the truth that they were not to eat of that tree.

RO 3:21 “But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. [22] This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, [23] **for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God**, [24] and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. [25] God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished-- [26] he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.”

This ”all have sinned” is caused by this curse of Adam.

This allowed evil to go into the soul of Adam and to us and the penalty for this is eternal separation from God or more commonly known as living in Hell. That is why we must be “Born again”, to receive a new, holy, clean of evil human spirit in our soul—our heart. But does sin stop there, is only the single sin of Adam condemning us? NO. Because sin lives in us, we follow that sin all of our lives. We sin because until we are “Born again”, sin is our nature and so we act according to our nature, sin. So is it a wonder that people are drawn to acts of sin?

11.3 How do we sin?

Simply put, sin is caused when we disobey God.

EPH 2:1 “As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, [2] in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are *disobedient*. [3] All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. [4] But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, [5] made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved. [6] And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, [7] in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. [8] For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift

Sin

of God-- [9] not by works, so that no one can boast. [10] For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

If you notice that this scripture does not say, unsaved sin, or evil people sin, or the Cains of this world sin, not it says that all who are disobedient are sinners. So that means that good people, Christians, and bad, or evil people can sin, anyone who is disobedient to God is a sinner.

11.3.1 Temptation

Here is how we sin. James has a good insight to the working of our sinful nature so that in understanding how sin works, we might have the knowledge and understanding on how to not fall into its trap. I had a problem understand when it was God was actually judging me for my sins. Are all actions not by faith a sin, or when do we really cross the line from sinless, to sinful? James has it revealed to him so that he can teach us and so we can stay sinless.

The sin process has 3 stages, the temptation, the conception and the maturity.

JAS 1:12 “Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him.

JAS 1:13 “When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He **tempt** anyone; [14] **but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.** [15] Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.”

This shows how sin can kill us. This says that each one is tempted by his own (evil) desire. But this temptation is not sin itself. Temptations are all the things that we are told not to do, think or say. The temptation is the evil spirit knocking at our windows. It is all of the voices, thoughts, urges that are thrown at us from the evil one. They are all of the lies we are told, just like the serpent did do Adam and Eve. Deception and trickery are the devils ways.

JN 8:42 “Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on My own; but He sent Me. [43] Why is My language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. [44] **You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.** [45] Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me! [46] Can any of you prove Me guilty of sin? If I am telling the

truth, why don't you believe Me? [47] He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."

MT 24:9 "Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. [10] **At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, [11] and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people.** [12] Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, [13] *but he who stands firm to the end will be saved.* [14] And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

AC 13:6 "They traveled through the whole island until they came to Paphos. There they met a Jewish sorcerer and false prophet named Bar-Jesus, [7] who was an attendant of the proconsul, Sergius Paulus. The proconsul, an intelligent man, sent for Barnabas and Saul because he wanted to hear the word of God. [8] But Elymas the sorcerer (for that is what his name means) opposed them and tried to turn the proconsul from the faith. [9] Then Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked straight at Elymas and said, [10] **"You are a child of the devil and an enemy of everything that is right! You are full of all kinds of deceit and trickery.** Will you never stop perverting the right ways of the Lord? [11] Now the hand of the Lord is against you. You are going to be blind, and for a time you will be unable to see the light of the sun.

Immediately mist and darkness came over him, and he groped about, seeking someone to lead him by the hand. [12] When the proconsul saw what had happened, he believed, for he was amazed at the teaching about the Lord."

Finally the devil can be or he can look like anything making it easy to deceive us.

2CO 11:13 "For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ. [14] **And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.** [15] It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve."

The key is that evil can use any disobedient person for his means, which is to the destruction of God and His children.

11.3.2 Evil Desire has Conceived

Eph 1:14 "but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. [15] **Then, after desire has conceived...**"

Sin

This says that the next step to sin is that the sinner is dragged away and enticed. This is essentially deciding to agree with or do that temptation. This is the point where we open the window. Before the agreement, we are hearing, seeing or receiving thoughts from the evil on through the window, but the evil spirit has not entered through the window yet.

The evil spirit is trying to draw us away with it, to get us to agree with it. Once we agree with it, which means that we have decided that we want it. And of course God, allowing us to have our free will, will allow it to happen because we want it. As it says, sometimes we are literally dragged by the evil one. But that is usually from our ignorance, gullibility or when we are a baby Christian or we are so overwhelmed with our daily life or problems, that evil spirit(s) can take control of us; anything that takes our minds off of Jesus, and to stop us from seeking the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. When we are not paying attention, then the enemy can drag us away from God. Or we get so busy that we do not notice that the enemy has us by the arm and is slightly tugging us into his direction until he has us in his clutches.

Please remember, regardless of what anything else is or says, sin commences when we agree with it, not necessarily by doing anything.

1JN 3:11 “This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another. [12] Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous. [13] Do not be surprised, my brothers, if the world hates you. [14] We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death. [15] **Anyone who hates** his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him.”

Is there any action here to hate, but if you do God calls it murder.

MT 5:27 "You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' [28] **But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.** [29] If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. [30] And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell”

God says that you only need to think of agreeing with evil and you have sinned. This is sinning, but when does sin produce death. It is not the temptation that is the sin, but how you react to that temptation.

11.3.3 Birth to Death

Sin

Eph 1:15 “Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, **when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.**”

When sin is full-grown, then we spiritually die. This is called the second death. The first death is the death to the body, and God will fix that with an immortal body, but the second death He cannot fix.

REV 20:11 “Then I saw a great white throne and Him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from His presence, and there was no place for them. [12] And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. [13] The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. [14] Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. **The lake of fire is the second death.** [15] If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”

This is the eternal damnation. Again, simply put, anyone who is disobedient, sins and if we die (the physical body perishes) with that sin still in us that is when He says that the sin matures. Once we are dead we go into God's time and we go to judgment as is says above and the sinner will receive the second death—HELL!!!!!!!!!!

Sin, a sinful spirit and a sinful nature, is in us until we are “Born again”, (see “Born again” in Volume 1, Chapter 7). As you know that once you are “Born again” that you now have a new sinless spirit and sinless nature. God has but a good spirit and nature into you.

A simple reminder, “A sin is a sin is a sin is a sin.” God has been saying that there is no difference between any sin, one sin is just as bad as another.

We cannot stop sin by removing temptation from the world. Because you cannot remove temptation until you remove the continual source of all temptation: 1. The sinful nature cause by Adam that draws us to fulfill temptation and 2. The DEVIL.. He is the source of all sin.

God has plans for him and his time is coming soon. But do not waist you time trying to remove the things of sin, such as pornography, drugs, alcohol, prostitution, or gambling because it will just start again somewhere else, because the father of all evil is still with us and he will start it again or fight it, and the end result is that you will get hurt or just waist God's and your time, which is what he wants.

Besides God says that tests (temptations) and trials are needed for those He loves.

Sin

JAS 1:12 “Blessed is the man who perseveres under **trial**, because when he has stood the **test**, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him.”

No, your job is to just obey God. He knows the right way. He knows how to defeat the devil and how to hurt him the most. But you **MUST** leave it up to God to do.

1JN 5:16 “If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, he should pray and God will give him life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that he should pray about that. [17] **All wrongdoing is sin**, and there is sin that does not lead to death.”

1JN 5:18 “We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him. [19] We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one. [20] We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know Him who is true. And we are in Him who is true--even in His Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.”

1JN 3:4 “Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. [5] But you know that He appeared so that He might take away our sins. And in Him is no sin. [6] No one who lives in Him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen Him or known Him.”

1JN 3:7 “Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as He is righteous. [8] **He who does what is sinful is of the devil**, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. [9] No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in Him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God. [10] This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: **Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not love his brother.**”

1JN 3:11 “This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another. [12] Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? **Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous.** [13] Do not be surprised, my brothers, if the world hates you. [14] We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death. [15] **Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him.**”

11.4 Living by Faith

Finally if we know anything that we should do that is right and we fail to do it, it is then sin.

JAS 4:11 “Brothers, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it. [12] There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you--who are you to judge your neighbor?”

JAS 4:13 “Now listen, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.” [14] Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. [15] Instead, you ought to say, “If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.” [16] As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil. [17] **Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.”**

JAS 5:1 “Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming upon you. [2] Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes. [3] Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days. [4] Look! The wages you failed to pay the workmen who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty. [5] You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter. [6] You have condemned and murdered innocent men, who were not opposing you.”

RO 14:22 “So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves. [23] ***But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin.***”

If you do everything by faith in God and by His word, then you know that you have not sinned. If you do not know, then you need to find out, so that you do not sin.

Can a person be sinning by saying, “Praise the Lord” or “Praise the Lord, anyway?” By reading these words, you would not think so, but if you heard the person say them, then you would know that he was. The reason is because of the hatred, anger and evil intent behind it. In this persons attitude it was no different then if he any kind of foul 4 letter word. Just because he tried to hide it behind Godly words, do not change his intention was to say perverse and foul language, which is a sin. In short, it is the evil

Sin

behind the words that God sees, or the evil attitude that was being harbored in this person's heart, but the cosmetics of words trying to cover the evil that was in that person's heart.

Here is a harder one. If you should kill someone, is it a sin? Well if you are obeying your country like being in the military, and you were following lawful orders that ends up killing someone, then no, that is not murder, it is called justified killing. But that is only if you were not harboring an evil intent of killing; that you saw the lawful order that could result in killing, and as long as you do not use it as an excuse to be able to kill someone, and so your intent is evil in that you now want to kill some one, then that evil attitude has not changed the justified killing to murder.

In short, murder is when you have decided in your mind and heart that you want to kill someone. Then you open the evil window to murder and you let that evil spirit of murder in your heart, and whether or not you do kill someone, then that attitude has made you into a murderer. You are not doing the job out of faith in God unless you have a clean, pure and peaceful heart, but rather you are doing it with an evil intent, desire or the treasure of your heart is of wanting to kill, with that attitude or desire to kill—you are a murderer.

If a person should break into your house and they are threatening you and your family with death, then if you should happen kill them protecting your family, and you do not have an evil intent of killing—murdering them, then you are justified in killing do protect your family. You are acting out of faith—and so it is not sin.

If you should be watching TV and it is cops and robbers, and you are relating with the robbers and your attitude is that the cops should die, then you are hating that TV person and in your mind you are killing them, then you are now a murderer. It is your attitude that God sees and He sees your attitude and desires as the devils, wanting to kill and so murder.

But if you are living in faith, which means you do not have an attitude or desire to kill when you watch TV, then you are not a sinner. So in real life you see someone getting killed or you are doing the killing, but you are justified, then God will not hold you account for murder, because you are being faithful, and righteous when you are having to act in such a violent way.

The commandment is “Do not murder,” and not, “Do not kill.” God tells us that we have the right to defend ourselves, others, like our children or loved ones or that we have the right to protect those that are weaker then ourselves. God honors man's law, as long as that law is not against God's law.

RO 12:1 “Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. [2] Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you

will be able to test and approve what God's will is--His good, pleasing and perfect will.

RO 12:3 “For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. [4] Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, [5] so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. [6] We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. [7] If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; [8] if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

RO 12:9 “Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. [10] Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. [11] Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. [12] Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. [13] Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

RO 12:14 “Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. [15] Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. [16] Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

RO 12:17 “Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. [18] If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. [19] Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay,"* says the Lord. [20] On the contrary:

"If your enemy is hungry, feed him;
if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.
In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."

RO 12:21 “**Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.**

Note: This is where we get the saying, “Do not try to cast out the darkness, but rather just turn on the Light of God.”

RO 13:1 “**Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has**

established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. [2] Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. [3] For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and he will commend you. [4] For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. [5] Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also because of conscience.

RO 13:6 “This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. [7] **Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.**

RO 13:8 “Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. [9] The commandments, "Do not commit adultery," "**Do not murder,**" "Do not steal," "Do not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: "Love your neighbor as yourself." [10] Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

RO 13:11 “And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. [12] The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. [13] Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. [14] Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.”

So, just for basic information, in most countries, man's law which is based on what is called “Common Law” allows for people to use deadly force:

1. To protect ourselves
2. To protect our family
3. To protect others

As long as our intent is not to want to kill others. I bring this up because there might come a time for us Christians to have to protect ourselves against the lawless attacks of others. God has mentioned many times to me, that in the end days Christians will be attacked by lawless people.

EZE 5:13 "Then my anger will cease and my wrath against them will subside, and I will be avenged. And when I have spent my wrath upon them, they will know that I the LORD have spoken in my zeal."

EZE 5:14 "I will make you a ruin and a reproach among the nations around you, in the sight of all who pass by. [15] You will be a reproach and a taunt, a warning and an object of horror to the nations around you when I inflict punishment on you in anger and in wrath and with stinging rebuke. I the LORD have spoken. [16] When I shoot at you with my deadly and destructive arrows of famine, I will shoot to destroy you. I will bring more and more famine upon you and cut off your supply of food. [17] **I will send famine and wild beasts against you**, and they will leave you childless. Plague and bloodshed will sweep through you, and I will bring the sword against you. I the LORD have spoken."

EZE 14:7 " `When any Israelite or any alien living in Israel separates himself from me and sets up idols in his heart and puts a wicked stumbling block before his face and then goes to a prophet to inquire of me, I the LORD will answer him myself. [8] I will set my face against that man and make him an example and a byword. I will cut him off from my people. Then you will know that I am the LORD.

EZE 14:9 " `And if the prophet is enticed to utter a prophecy, I the LORD have enticed that prophet, and I will stretch out my hand against him and destroy him from among my people Israel. [10] They will bear their guilt--the prophet will be as guilty as the one who consults him. [11] Then the people of Israel will no longer stray from me, nor will they defile themselves anymore with all their sins. They will be my people, and I will be their God, declares the Sovereign LORD.' "

EZE 14:12 "The word of the LORD came to me: [13] "Son of man, if a country sins against me by being unfaithful and I stretch out my hand against it to cut off its food supply and send famine upon it and kill its men and their animals, [14] even if these three men--Noah, Daniel* and Job--were in it, they could save only themselves by their righteousness, declares the Sovereign LORD."

EZE 14:15 "**Or if I send wild beasts through that country and they leave it childless and it becomes desolate so that no one can pass through it because of the beasts**, [16] as surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, even if these three men were in it, they could not save their own sons or daughters. They alone would be saved, but the land would be desolate.

EZE 14:17 "Or if I bring a sword against that country and say, 'Let the sword pass throughout the land,' and I kill its men and their animals, [18] as surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, even if these three men were in it, they could not save their own sons or daughters. They alone would be saved.

EZE 14:19 "Or if I send a plague into that land and pour out my wrath upon it through bloodshed, killing its men and their animals, [20] as surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, even if Noah, Daniel and Job were in it, they could save neither son nor daughter. They would save only themselves by their righteousness.

EZE 14:21 "For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: **How much worse will it be when I send against Jerusalem my four dreadful judgments--sword and famine and wild beasts and plague--to kill its men and their animals!** [22] Yet there will be some survivors--sons and daughters who will be brought out of it. They will come to you, and when you see their conduct and their actions, you will be consoled regarding the disaster I have brought upon Jerusalem--every disaster I have brought upon it. [23] You will be consoled when you see their conduct and their actions, for you will know that I have done nothing in it without cause, declares the Sovereign LORD."

REV 6:5 "When the Lamb opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come!" I looked, and there before me was a black horse! Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. [6] Then I heard what sounded like a voice among the four living creatures, saying, "A quart of wheat for a day's wages,* and three quarts of barley for a day's wages, and do not damage the oil and the wine!"

REV 6:7 "When the Lamb opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, "Come!" [8] I looked, and there before me was a pale horse! Its rider was named Death, and Hades was following close behind him. **They were given power over a fourth of the earth to kill by sword, famine and plague, and by the wild beasts of the earth.**"

I prayed and prayed about this for a long time, especially, the part about. "Wild beasts". So after some time, He finally revealed to me what this saying, "Wild Beast" means.

One day when the Oakland Raiders football team returned home after loosing the Super bowl, they people of Oakland rioted and destroyed Oakland, all over a lost football game. As I watch the chaos and mayhem, God revealed that those people that we were causing this chaos and rioting were the wild beasts. They were being lawless. When people act out in lawlessness, they are being nothing more then wild beasts, and therefore if necessary, they might be killed when we are protecting ourselves and maybe others.

Sin

Note: Why have I brought up this sensitive subject, just for this very reason, it is sensitive and it is the most misunderstood. You cannot help God if you are dead. He is training you and developing you, what good are you to God if you are gone. When Jesus was gathering for the last time before His crucifixion, He gave a command to all:

LK 22:35 "Then Jesus asked them, "When I sent you without purse, bag or sandals, did you lack anything?"
"Nothing," they answered.

LK 22:36 "He said to them, "But now if you have a purse, take it, and also a bag; **and if you don't have a sword, sell your cloak and buy one.** [37] It is written: `And He was numbered with the transgressors'; and I tell you that this must be fulfilled in Me. Yes, what is written about Me is reaching its fulfillment."

LK 22:38 "The disciples said, "See, Lord, here are two swords."
"That is enough," He replied.

LK 22:39 "Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and His disciples followed Him. [40] On reaching the place, He said to them, **"Pray that you will not fall into temptation."** [41] He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, [42] "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done." [43] An angel from heaven appeared to Him and strengthened Him. [44] And being in anguish, He prayed more earnestly, and His sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground."

This shows that God wants us to use all means possible to protect our selves.

Finally, God says that we need to go throughout the world and spread the Gospel. God wants us to spread the Gospel to the sinners, which means that you have to go where the sinners are. So the Holy Spirit calls you to go into a bar, with all of the temptations of the flesh and stomach, what are you going to do, hide you head in the sand or are you going to go where the Holy Spirit calls you to go.

So if you go, what is going to happen, are you going to act on faith, go in with the peace of God and in His strength, or are you going to let the fear of temptation control you—stop you.

That is why His is saying that all actions that are from faith are sinless. You can see, feel and taste the temptations, but being one with God and living by faith, will keep you sin free. You can be like Jesus, who when in the desert for 40 days with the devil, defeated him at all steps. You can walk through the valley of death, and have victory over it. You can bring those lost to God, instead of the temptations bringing you down.

Sin

If you are able to live in Psalms 91, then you can be used by God and fulfill His great commission. Now that you understand the cause, effect and nature of sin, you need to pray and study how to not fall into sin and how to defeat it.

The key to this is faith. Trusting God to help you, lead you and protect you.

Understanding is the best protection against sin. Understanding is the key to union with God and His children. You need to keep seeking the Kingdom of God to understand it so that you can be one with it and God Himself. You cannot decide on living the ways of God if you do not understand it.

Keep in your heart always the two keys to life with God:

1. Seek first the Kingdom of God
2. Seek first His righteousness

If you change (repent) your hearts desire to these two keys, if you change your hearts desire to the first command to love God, then how can the devil tempt your heart to sin, when your heart is for loving God.

This is what I did. I figured that if my hearts desire was to be with God, to see God, to obey God, then what evil desire is there in my heart for the DEVIL to tempt me to sin. So the only thing in my heart is the desire to please, God and I told the devil he was welcome to try to tempt my of my hearts desire to please God.

So living by faith, with pleasing/obeying God as my hearts desire, I find it hard to sin. Do not get me wrong, I no one is perfect, but this sure helps.

Sin