

power to heal us from our biggest and most serious problem - SIN!

For example, the world faced a pandemic and it was killing millions! No one had a cure. The disease crossed the continents and it froze travel. Loved ones were dying and hospitals were overfilled! How hard did doctors and organizations work the world over to find a cure for the dreaded disease.

Suppose you had the Covid-19 and the doctors told you that it was as terminal as Cancer, advanced heart disease or and advancing Alzheimer's, etc. Then, suppose they said that we have discovered a cure that was 100% effective / free / and readily available - would you reject it?

We have written today what God teaches is the effect of "sin" upon "me" for me and "you" for you. But God has given us the cure through Jesus. Will you reject it?

Whatever it takes to avoid an eternity in damnation, will I not want the cure? Jesus said, *Matthew 5:29-30 (NKJV)*

*29 If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.*

Only God can cure you from the effect of Sin in your life. Let us help.

**What is the best attitude to have when studying or hearing the truth?**

**"Test everything.** Hold on to the good. **Avoid every kind of evil.**" | Th. 5:21,22 (NIV)

"Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, **examining the Scriptures daily, to see whether these things were so.**" Acts 17:11. (NASB)

"Beloved, **do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits** to see whether they are from God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world." | 1 Jn. 4:1 (NASB)

"Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned, as it were, with salt, **so that you may know how you should respond** to each person." Col. 4:6. (NASB)

"But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, **always being ready to make a defense** to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence." | 1 Pet. 3:15. (NASB)

*That is God's answer. Can we argue with it (Jer. 10:23; Isa. 55:8,9; John 17:17)? David*



# The SOMERSET Teacher

## Christians Living As Christians

Editor: David V. Hurst

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Sentence Sermon...

If you cannot do great things, you can at least do small things in a great way.

## The Effect Of Sin To "ME?"

If we were to take some surveys from different folks as to what really is sin and whether it is that bad, there is no doubt that we would get a variety of opinions in response. However if we really want truth, we look to the only Being that does know; that is God. He is the only One Who can definitively teach us what sin is and the effect that it has upon His creation. dvh

### Sin Is A ROBBER (Steals, Kills & Destroys)

*Reading in John 10:10 (NKJV), The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. The biggest thief is the one of souls, Satan. He uses false teachers and temptation to STEAL, KILL & DESTROY ...*

- ⇒ Our relationship with God (Gen 3; Isa. 59:1,2; Jam. 4:4)
- ⇒ The blessings God wants to give us (i.e., acceptance, forgiveness, peace, joy, hope, inheritance ... cf. Ep. 1:3-12)
- ⇒ Our relationships (e.g., family, friends, etc. 1 Jn 1:7; Amos 3:3)
- ⇒ Our very souls (Ez. 18:4,20; Re. 21:8)

Sin robs us of everything dearest in this world. Those who live in sin may not even realize how much they missed out upon having!

## **SIN Is A Detestable FILTH & STAIN (Corrupts & Defiles)**

Picture in your mind a wedding that is about to take place and the bride is dressed in all her glory. Before the traditional march down the aisle, an attendant spills blackberry punch down the front of her dress. It is a stain that won't come out and it is ruined...what a predicament...? Unlike the illustration (has heartbreaking it may be the bride) the stain of sin, is that it is upon the soul with an eternal consequences. We may illustrate with *Matthew 15:18-20 (NKJV)* 18 *But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. 19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. 20 These are the things which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man."*

Yes, Sin corrupts and defiles the inner man, the soul (1 Co. 6:9-11, 18-20. Ep. 5:3-6; etc.) It is there and one cannot stand before God with soul stained in sin. He must be cleansed to be accepted of God (Isa. 1:16-20; Ps. 51:7; Rev. 7:14; 21:27). This is a "heart" stain that defiles our conscience with guilt, and it CAN'T be removed except by the blood of Christ through an obedient faith (Heb. 9:11-14; 10:22; 1 Pet. 1:22; 3:21). No heart stained in sin can be used by God or have fellowship with God.

## **SIN Is A Cruel MASTER (Enslaves, Controls & Burdens)**

Jesus made this very clear (*John 8:34-36 (NKJV)* 34 *Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. 35 And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. 36 Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.*

Clearly, sins effect is that sinners are in bondage to sin. God's word states this directly. As in *Proverbs 5:22 (NKJV)* 22 *His own iniquities entrap the wicked man, And he is caught in the cords of his sin. Or in Romans 6:16 (NKJV)* 16 *Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? Or in, Romans 7:14 (NKJV)* 14 *For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin. And Romans 7:24-25 (NKJV)* 24 *O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this*

*body of death? 25 I thank God – through Jesus Christ our Lord! ...*

## **SIN Is A Darkness That BLINDS The Mind (Will Not See)**

The Bible describes walking in sin as "walking in darkness" (1 Jn 1:6; Ps. 82:5; Pr. 2:13; Is. 59:9, 10; Jer. 23:12). More, those who walk in darkness do not understand where they are going (Jn 12:35; 1 Jn 2:9-11). In applying this metaphor spiritually, those who walk in sin, whether due to deception or ignorance, do not understand why they have such trouble in life (Prov. 4:19; Jn 11:10). That is one horrible effect of sin upon a person. And he can't see it!

We are to walk in the light (truth) and expose darkness (Eph. 5:8-14). As John noted, *John 3:19-20 (NKJV)* 19 *And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. Paul sated it this way, Romans 1:21-22 (NKJV)* 21 *because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, Matthew noted, 13:15 (NKJV)* 15 *For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.'*

None are more blind than those who do not know they are blind.

## **SIN IS A Deadly Spiritual DISEASE (Destroys & Kills)**

Leprosy served as a vivid type or figure of sin in the Bible (Ps 51:7; 2 Ki 5:1, 7, 10, 13, 14). Consider some of the comparisons:

- ⇒ Sin, like leprosy in Bible times, is incurable by man. (2 Kings 5:7)
- ⇒ Sin, like leprosy, is loathsome & defiling. (Lev. 13:2,3)
- ⇒ Sin, like leprosy, causes separation (Le. 13:44-46)
- ⇒ Sin, like leprosy, unless cured - causes death. (2 Chron. 26:21)

Jesus was able to miraculously heal leprosy, and other diseases (The blind, lame, lepers, deaf; the dead are raised - Mat 11:4,5). As this demonstrated His Deity, it also pointed to His