



Chalmette Church of Christ

June 29th, 2014

Sin—The Problem of Humankind

Maxie B. Boren

The Old Testament Scriptures introduce us to the problem of sin and its destructive consequences. The New Testament Scriptures give us additional pertinent information.

In Genesis 3, we have the record of Adam and Eve eating the forbidden fruit. While permitting them to eat of every other tree in the garden of Eden, God had told them not to eat of the "tree of knowledge of good and evil." God warned them that if they did, the penalty would be death. But they succumbed to the enticements of Satan and transgressed— they did the very thing that God had told them not to do. They thus "sinned." And because of their sin, they had to pay the penalty, which was death.

It was through this transgression of Adam and Eve that sin first entered into the world, and death came into the world also, as a result of sin. And ever since, in all of Adam and Eve's posterity, which have reached an "age of accountability," sin has transpired. Thus, the problem of sin, and its consequences (i.e., death), is worldwide.

"And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, '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.'" Genesis 2:16-17.

"And the serpent [i.e., Satan] said unto the woman, 'You will not surely die.'" Genesis 3:4. Please note: Satan told the first lie. Satan is the "father of lies." John 8:44.

"And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit of it, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her, and he did ate." Genesis 3:6.

"Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness and sin is lawlessness." 1 John 3:4.

"for all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23.

"Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned." Romans 5:12.

"For the wages of sin is death." Romans 6:23.

"Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am tempted by God'; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death." James 1:13-15.

Death is actually a "separation." Physical death is the separation of the human spirit from the body. When the spirit leaves the body, the body is dead. Earthly life ceases to be at that point. In like manner, "spiritual death" is a separation. When a person departs from a right relationship with God by committing sin, "spiritual death" is the result. At such time there is a cessation of spiritual life. Consider:

"... the body without the spirit is dead. . . ." James 2:26. The prophet Isaiah indicted the wicked people of his day by saying, "... your iniquities have separated you from your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you. . . ." Isaiah 59:2.

God had warned Adam and Eve that they would die in the day they ate the forbidden fruit. And they did indeed! They died spiritually that very day! God drove them out of the garden of Eden, and thus, away from his holy presence. Read Genesis 3:23-24. They, therefore, were separated from God. Their right relationship with their Creator had been broken because of sin (i.e., lawlessness—transgression of God's will).

Not only did Adam and Eve die that day spiritually, but God also placed the curse of physical death upon them and all humankind because of sin.

"... dust you are, and to dust you shall return." Genesis 3:19.

The dust shall "return to the earth as it was; and the spirit will return to God who gave it." Ecclesiastes 12:7.

While we all must die physically because of what Adam and Eve did, we die spiritually only for our own sins. Each person is responsible for himself, spiritually. The theology that teaches we inherit the "guilt" of Adam's sin is false theology! We do inherit the "consequence" of Adam's sin, but not the "guilt," and there is a great difference. To illustrate the difference, envision a drunken husband and father who comes home and, in a rage, beats his wife and children. The wife and children indeed suffer the consequence of his drunkenness, but it would be absurd to say they are guilty of it! People die physically because of Adam's sin, but they die spiritually because of their own personal sins.

"The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. . . ." Ezekiel 18:20.

Many people today laugh at sin and make a big joke out of it, and try to make others think it is not so bad. Don't be deceived—sin is devastating! It can cause you to lose your soul throughout all eternity. Sin brings death! Death means separation. Therefore, eternal death is everlasting separation from God, and from all that is good, and right, and true. Hell is no joking matter!

"Fools mock at sin." Proverbs 14:9.

While Satan masquerades as a friend, he is really the very worst enemy that we have. Satan is seeking the eternal ruination of every human soul by tempting and enticing to sin. But the Bible warns:

Be sober, be vigilant: because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, . . . 1 Peter 5:8, 9.

"Do not be deceived. God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the spirit will of the spirit reap everlasting life." Galatians 6:7, 8.

"Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." James 4:7.

News and Notes

- Please keep Ms. Rita Williams in your prayers. She came forward this past Sunday asking for prayers.
- Please keep Malcom and Marlene Vazquez in your prayers at this time. Malcom was diagnosed with cancer recently and is undergoing tests.
- Please keep Sylvia Hall and her mother in your prayers at this time.
- Please keep Alice Riley, and Margo Rodney in your prayers at this time as they are in poor health.
- Please keep Keiane Johnson in your prayers at this time. He is suffering from leukemia and will be undergoing a bone marrow transplant.



June Birthdays

29th-Berry Mack

30th-Josh Borchers



Prayer List



Alice Riley & family
Sherry Towle
Margo Rodney
Judy Hennessee
Betty Grisham
Ella Gillard
Krisztian Montague
Linda Swanner
Jackie Gamble
Addressan Jenkins
Gloria Smiles
Joel James
David Ebeling
Ryker Amaya
Raymond Sanchez
Gary Huettmann
Malcolm & Marlene Vazquez

*All of our brethren scattered across
the United States & our troops in
Iraq



Chalmette Church of Christ
200 De La Ronde
Chalmette, LA 70043
504-279-9438

Services of The Church **Sunday**

Bible Classes 9:00 am
AM Worship 10:00 am
PM Worship 6:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Classes 7:00 pm

Elders

Mark Lance 504-250-8492

J. V. Russell 504-277-0251

Charles Whitley 504-277-4717

Evangelist

Mark Lance 504- 250-8492

gospelpr@cox.net

Deacons

Scott Russell 504-232-4120

Wayne Schulz 504-392-3999

Butch Snyder 504-682-0051

Mike Swanner 504-271-2465

Website: www.chalmettecoc.org

Chalmette Church of Christ
Post Office Box 1165
Chalmette, LA 70044