

FROM THE WORD --

IS SIN SERIOUS?

Perhaps we can begin this article and answer this important question with a few simple verses of Scripture --

"For ALL have sinned and come short of the Glory of God" (Romans 3:23). That word ALL covers everyone of us -- male and female, young and old, presently living or dead, and all future human beings -- every person that has ever drawn a breath has sinned -- we are all born in sin - handed down from father Adam.

"The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). Whatever we do in our lifetime deserves pay -- and the payment for sinning is eternal death. We must all give an account for whatever we have done in our lifetime -- and God, the Righteous Judge will have the final word.

"To him who knows to do good and does not do it -- to him it is sin" (James 4:17). We are all born with a conscience -- we automatically recognize good and evil. You don't have to teach a child to disobey rules, or to take something he wants from another child -- it comes naturally from our sin nature.

"All unrighteousness is sin" (1 John 5:17). Anything that is not right, is wrong. Anything that is doubtful, is dirty. Anything that you have to ponder to do or not to do, is not right. There are rules of right and wrong taught in every level of society and education and we have the ability to choose the way we will take.

"Whatever is not of Faith is sin" (Romans 14:23). Faith is what we decide to follow during our time on earth -- to live by Faith or to set up our own selfish rules which may carry us through this life, but when this life ends -- that's another story. The old adage, "Better to be safe than sorry!"

"Be sure your sin will find you out" (Numbers 32:23). There is no escape -- if you sin you will pay the price -- and it's a steep price to pay for a lifetime of purposely ignoring God's warnings. Remember, God loves you and wants you with Him one day in Heaven -- but He will never force you -- it's up to you!

"Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness" (1 John 3:4). Even in secular life, if you break a law you are guilty and must pay the penalty as prescribed by law. You can rest assured, breaking an earthly law is nothing compared with breaking God's law.

Remember, God's Word says, *"The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked -- who can know it?"* (Jeremiah 17:9) followed with *"I, the Lord"* (vs.10). So we are assured that God sees all things, God knows all things, and will judge all things. Again we can say, be very careful of the choices that are on your report card.

It is so easy today to make a mockery of sin -- in the entertainment industry, in the publication industry, in the advertisement industry, in the political arena -- when all the while neglecting the seriousness and future punishment for these acts of self destruction.

“God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9). He loves you and me so very much He was willing that His only Son, Jesus Christ, should shed His blood on the Cross as an atonement for our sins (John 3:16) -- and all we have to do is accept His finished work, receive His blood bought forgiveness, and be assured of a place in Heaven when we die.

We close this article with the words of an old familiar hymn, “What can wash away my sin -- nothing but the Blood of Jesus.”

IS SIN SERIOUS? -- ARE YOU SERIOUS? -- GET SERIOUS TODAY!

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