

SIN STUDY

1. WHO HAS SINNED?

A. Romans 3:23

1. All have sinned—No one can make it on their own goodness. All are lost.
2. Definition of sin: to miss the mark (an archery term—to miss the bull’s-eye—to miss perfection).
3. Who is further away from God? All equal: all are lost; no degree of sins (Hawaii Analogy). Therefore, a good moral life is not enough to save.

2. WHAT IS SIN?

A. Sins of commission

1. **Mark 7:20-23**—sinful thoughts
 - a. Sin comes from the heart
 - b. Personal responsibility (not upbringing, environment, genes, social pressures, etc.)
2. **Galatians 5:19-21**—sinful actions
 - a. Sinful actions are obvious
 - b. Live like this, no hope of heaven

B. Sins of omission

1. **James 4:17**—failing to do the right things God commands

3. WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN?

A. Romans 6:23—death—we get what we deserve

B. Separation

1. Sin separates us from God—**Isaiah 59:1-2**
 - a. Sin separates us from God for eternity (wall analogy)
 - b. No second chances! Where you are with God when you die is where you are with God for eternity (either separated or in a right relationship).
2. Sin separates us from others / those we love
 - a. Pride/hatred/resentments/anger/prejudice/selfishness/lying/etc.
 - b. Hurts caused by sin hinder marriages and families to be close and loving. Friendships become superficial.
3. Sin separates us from ourselves
 - a. Depression, guilt, not liking ourselves, feeling sorry for ourselves, hopelessness, feeling unloved, feeling meaningless, etc.
 - b. This is what our personal sins can do to us—even leading us to the point of thinking about or trying to commit suicide
 - c. So separated from yourself that you would harm yourself to try and escape.

4. QUESTION: WHERE AM I?

1. Right with God or separated from God?
 - a. Clearly man’s greatest problem is sin.
 - b. Clearly man’s greatest need is forgiveness
2. Next study is **Repentance**—the first step in receiving the forgiveness sin.