

Sin and Its Consequences

Text : **Matthew 5: 21-30**

A. Think back to the people you've known who stand out in your memory.

S#1.

S#2.

1. Who's the best person you've ever known ?
2. Who's the worst person you've ever known ?
3. Other than knowing you, what do those two people have in common ? (*Sin*)

S#3.

B. What do all people in all places, cultures and circumstance have in common ?

1. They all have sinned.

S#4.

Rom. 3: 10, 23 – There is none righteous, not even one ...

23 for all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

2. Even dedicated Christians sin.

S#5.

I John 1: 8 – If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.

S#6.

C. Sin is the greatest problem any person ever faces during their sojourn on earth.

1. Our lesson today will demonstrate that to be the case.
2. We will look at sin and its horrible consequences.
3. We will see :
 - a. What sin is.
 - b. That sin is a choice.
 - c. How God views sin.
 - d. The horrible, eternal consequences of sin.
 - e. Hell is real

S#7.

I. What is sin ? We should not be ignorant of sin or underestimate its affect.

S#8.

A. The scriptures define sin in 5 basic categories.

S#9.

1. Sin is a violation of God's law.

S#10.

I John 3: 4 – Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness.

2. Sin is a violation of the law man.

S#11.

Rom. 13:2 – Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.

3. Sin is a violation of our own internalized law. (*conscience*) **S#12.**

Rom. 14: 23 – But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and whatever is not from faith is sin.

4. Sin is the planning to or desiring to violate any of these laws. **S#13.**

Matt. 5: 28 – I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

5. Sin is the failure to do what we know to be right. **S#14.**

James 4: 17 – Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

* The greater victory we are able to gain over sins of commission, the greater the struggle with sins of omission. *ALL Sin and fall short.*

B. Sin is any rebellion against the sovereignty of God. **S#15.**

1. God has the absolute right to reign over every aspect of our lives.
 - a. He is our creator.
 - b. He gives us life and sustains us.
2. No ruler can tolerate the failure to obey his laws. *Chaos would ensue.*

II. God does not want for you to sin, but He allows you to choose to do so. **S#16.**

A. God grants men the freedom to choose whether or not to obey Him. **S#17.**

1. God has the power to force us to comply with His will.
2. If He did it, the sovereign God would be justified in forcing compliance.

B. God desires a loving relationship with His creation. **S#18.**

1. When asked what was most important to God, Jesus responded :
Matt. 22: 37 – You shall love the lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.
2. Love can never be forced; it must be freely given.
3. Our love for God is a natural response to His love for us.
I John 4: 19 – We love, because He first loved us.
4. We obey God because we love Him .. not because we are forced to do so.
John 14: 15 – If you love me, keep my commandments.
5. Love seeks the good of another above his own desires. (*Sin is selfish*)

C. Neither Satan nor anyone else can force you to sin. **S#19.**

John 10: 28 – I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.

III. God abhors sin in all its forms.**S#20.****A. God views those who sin as being His enemies.****S#21.**

1. **Rom 5: 8-11** But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. **9** Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. **10** For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. **11** And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation. **S#22.**

- a. Objects of God's wrath. (*His wrath is a just response, not getting mad.*)
- b. Sinners are considered enemies.
- c. Relationship is broken so reconciliation is required.

2. Sin is a violation of one's relationship with God. (*adulteresses*) **S#23.**

- a. **James 4: 4** – You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.
- b. There is no half way with God; it's all or nothing.
- c. God demands total loyalty.

B. Our holy God will not allow sin in His presence.**S#24.**

1. God is totally holy so He cannot allow Himself to be corrupted by sin.

ILL. – *Visiting lady screamed and backed away when child offered piglet to hold.*

2. **Isa. 59: 1-2** Behold, the Lord's hand is not so short that it cannot save; Nor is His ear so dull that it cannot hear. **2** But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.
(*God makes a choice not to hear sinners.*)

C. The objective of all who follow Christ is to be like Him.**S#25.**

1. Jesus set a standard to which none of us have measured up.

Heb. 4:15 – For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.

2. We do our best to follow His example in our lives.

Eph. 5: 1-2 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; **2** and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma. (cf – **Eph. 4: 13**) **S#26.**

* *This is that same Jesus who left Heaven to seek and save lost people.* **Lk 19:10**

IV. The consequences of sin are unimaginably horrible.**S#27.****A. Those who live and die outside of Christ have no hope beyond earth.****S#28.**

1. Those outside of Christ have absolutely NO hope.

Eph. 2: 12 – Remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

2. Because of Christ the Christian lives in anticipation of Heaven.

S#29.

Eph. 1: 18 – I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

3. Like “The Tale of Two Cities” by Charles Dickens

- a. *It was the best of times, it was the worst of times,*
- b. This life is the worst the Christian will ever face, but the best for the lost.

B. Sin separates people from God.**S#30.**

1. We have already read Isaiah 59 to see the relationship is totally severed.
2. In a spiritual sense separation from God is referred to as death.
 - a. The word “thanatos” means that separation of the soul from the body.
 - b. **Ezek. 18:4** – Behold, all souls are Mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is Mine. The soul who sins will die.
 - c. **Rom. 6: 23** – For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

C. Being separated from God also separates one from all that He provides.**S#31.**

1. **II Thes. 2: 6-9** For after all it is only just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, ⁷ and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, ⁸ dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. ⁹ These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,
 - a. Those outside of Christ will suffer destruction.
 - b. The destruction will be eternal. (*No hope of relief or release .. NO purgatory*)
 - c. It will be away from God and with the devil and His angels.
2. All one has to do to see what life with Satan would be is to look at Job’s life.

D. Sin has brought horrible things on the earth.**S#32.**

1. **Gen. 3** ... Physical death is a consequence of sin. (Cf. – **I Cor. 15**)
2. **Gen. 7** ... The ancient world was destroyed because of sins.
3. The inhabitants of Canaan were killed because of sin.
4. The nation of Israel was conquered, captured and eventually destroyed by sin.
5. The Only Begotten Son of God was crucified because of sin.

V. Hell is real, it is eternal and it is horrible.**S#33.****A. The same bible that tells us about Heaven speaks about Hell.****S#34.**

1. The bible has more to say about Hell than it has to say about Heaven.
2. Ever how long the saved are WITH God the lost are SEPARATED from Him.
 - a. **Matt. 18: 8** , **25: 41** , **Jude 7** ... **cast into eternal fire**
 - b. **Matt. 25: 46** ... **eternal punishment**
 - c. **Heb. 6: 2** ... **eternal judgment**

B. Hell was created for the devil and His angels.**S#35.**

1. **Matt. 25: 41** – Then He will also say to those on His left, ' Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;
2. **II Pet. 2:4** – For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment;

C. Hell is a place of constant torment which never ends .. eternal.**S#36.**

1. **Matt. 8: 29** ... The demons asked Jesus, “Have you come here to torment us before”
2. **Mark 9: 43-44** If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life crippled, than, having your two hands, to go into hell, into the unquenchable fire, **44** [where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.]
3. **Luke 16: 23** – In Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torment,
16: 28 – ... so they will not come to this place of torment ...

CONCLUSION :**A. We have seen :****S#37.**

1. Sin is easy to commit.
2. God does not want us to sin, but He will not force compliance.
3. God really hates sin in all forms.
4. The consequence of sin is eternity in Hell.
5. Hell is the most horrible place imaginable.

** The core of sin is selfishness ... we want what we want more than what God wants*

S#38.**B. Having seen all this, who do you know that you would like to see go to Hell ?**

John 3: 16 – For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

C. You are the one sent by God to direct your world away from Hell.**S#39.**

II Cor. 5: 20 – Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were
making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

D. Sin separates people from God, but Jesus reconciles them.**S#40.**

1. Everyone sins and falls short of the glory of God.
2. Only Jesus can provide forgiveness and eternal life with God.
3. People will never hear that message of salvation unless we tell it to them.

*** Who do you know that needs to hear it ?**

*** Have you told them ? IF NOT, why not ?**

*** Every person is either a missionary or a mission field ?**

INVITATION :**A. Have you responded to the message of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus the Christ ?****S#41.****B. If you haven't, you have the opportunity to do so right now.****S#42. Communion slide**

Lesson Text :**Matthew 5: 21-30**

21 " You have heard that the ancients were told, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER' and 'Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.' **22** "But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, ' You good-for-nothing,' shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, 'You fool,' shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell. **23** "Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, **24** leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering. **25** " Make friends quickly with your opponent at law while you are with him on the way, so that your opponent may not hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the officer, and you be thrown into prison. **26** "Truly I say to you, you will not come out of there until you have paid up the last cent.

27 " You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY'; **28** but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. **29** " If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. **30** " If your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to go into hell.