

THE PERFECT CRIME

The year was 1924 when two well-educated college students, Nathan and Richard, from a wealthy Chicago suburb committed murder, the murder of a 14-year-old boy. Why did they do this? The two killers not only readily admitted their guilt, but they also bragged about what they had done. Their crime was well planned and carried out simply for the thrill of it; they had their alibi and thought for sure they had committed the perfect crime. In the end, though, they were caught and went to trial. Having been found guilty, they were sentenced to life in prison plus 99 years. In prison, Richard was murdered by another inmate; Nathan received a parole in 1958 and died in 1971. In their minds, they had committed a perfect crime. Though, there is no such thing as a **perfect crime** and you, the reader, may ask why.

The fact of the matter is that no matter who does what, when or where they do it, their actions are known and there will be a day of reckoning, a day when they will answer for what was done. Please allow me a couple of minutes to briefly explain why.

The Bible is God's Word and in it He informs us that everyone, those who have already died, those of us who are now living, and those who are yet to be born, **ALL** of humanity will one day stand before Jesus Christ and give an account himself {includes men and women}. *"For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So, then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."* {Romans 14:11-12} In the Old Testament book of Numbers God warned Israel *"But if ye will not do so behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out."* {Numbers 32:23} This was in response to Israel as they prepared to go into the promised land. What God told them then is equally valid for us today; our sins will find us out. *"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."* {Galatians 6:7}

Soon after the human race was created, sin came into the world and has been running rampant ever since. In the Garden of Eden Adam committed the sin of disobedience; perhaps he thought he had committed the **perfect crime** but, he did not because God saw it and came looking for him. {Genesis 3:8-9} Because of Adam's disobedience, the sin nature entered the realm of humanity. In the book of Romans we read, *"Wherefore as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:"* {Romans 5:12} So you see my friend, because of the sin of disobedience on the part of Adam that sin came into the realm of humanity and, as result, we are **ALL** born with a sin nature and it is out of the nature that acts of sin are committed. Just because no one here on earth sees the committed sin does not mean that it goes unnoticed by God. God is omniscient {all knowing} and He sees and knows everything, whether seen or unseen. {Job 26:6; 31:4; 34:21; Psalm 147:5; Hebrews 4:13; 1 John 3:20; John 2:24; 16:30; 21:17; Acts 1:24}

Following this, Adam's son Cain committed the first murder when, out of jealousy, he killed his brother Abel; no one was around to see it happen, but God knew. So much for a **perfect crime**! All of this may be read in Genesis, chapters 3 & 4. Because of Adam's sin of disobedience, **ALL** of humanity is under the penalty of death, *"For the wages of sin is death"* {Romans 6:23} God does deal harshly with sin but, because of His love for His creation, He extends mercy and grace to all, and that is what John 3:16 is all about. *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."* Every person, no matter who he is or what he has done, if he will repent of his sin{s} and trust Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, then that person will be forgiven and saved for all eternity. When Jesus Christ, God the Son, shed His innocent blood and died on the Cross of Calvary, He paid our sin debt for all eternity.

{See Hebrews, chapters 9 & 10} At this very moment as you read these lines, He is in Heaven on the right hand of the Father {Hebrews 10:12}.

There is no such thing as a **perfect crime** or an unseen sin because God sees everything we do, He hears everything we say, and He even knows what we are thinking. ALL of us will stand before Jesus Christ one day; as Christians, we will stand before Him as our Lord and Saviour and give an account of our lives after we were saved. Those who have not repented and trusted Him as Saviour, those people will stand before Him as judge at the great white throne judgement that we read about in Revelation 20:11, *“And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.”* Speaking of those who were/are not saved, *“And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”* {Revelation 20:15}

Those who go to Heaven are Christians: those who have truly repented of sin and by faith alone in Jesus Christ, have received Him as personal Saviour. Christians are not perfect people; we are simply sinners saved by grace and, as such, we have a responsibility to live our lives in such a way that we bring honor and glory to our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. Yes, we will still commit sin but, that is NOT to be our habit in life and if and when we do sin, it will be under the blood of Jesus Christ. We will still need to repent for it and seek God's forgiveness but that will not be for salvation but for restoration of fellowship with our Heavenly Father.

There is no **perfect crime** but there is a perfect Saviour. Will you repent and put your faith and trust in Him as personal Saviour - today!? *“And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.”* {1 John 5:11-13}

~Richard A. Ciarrocca/2017