

## What Sin Can Do For You

Sin may be defined as “any want of conformity unto or transgression of the law of God” {1 Jo 3:4; Ro 4:15}, in the inward state and habit of the soul, as well as in the outward conduct of the life, whether by omission or commission {Ro 6:12-17; 7:5-24}. It is “not a mere violation of the law of our constitution, nor of the system of things, but an offence against a personal lawgiver and moral governor who vindicates his law with penalties. The soul that sins is always conscious that his sin is {1} intrinsically vile and polluting, and {2} that it justly deserves punishment, and calls down the righteous wrath of God. Hence sin carries with it two inalienable characters,

1. ill-desert; guilt
2. pollution

The moral character of a man’s actions is determined by the moral state of his heart. The disposition to sin or the habit of the soul that leads to the sinful act is itself also sin.

**Sin robs you of peace.** *“There is no peace, saith the LORD, unto the wicked.”* {Isaiah 48:22} The “wicked” are the morally wrong; those who are ungodly. You may have whatever money can buy today and still any more because there is no real contentment in the heart.

**Sin shuts you out from God.** *“Behold, the LORD’S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.”* {Isaiah 59:1-2} Do not allow Satan or anyone else tell you otherwise; sin separates you from God.

**Sin makes a coward of a you.** *“The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but the righteous are bold as a lion.”* {Proverbs 28:1} “What continual frights those are subject to that go on in wicked ways. Guilt in the conscience makes men a terror to themselves, so that they are ready to flee when none pursues; like one that absconds for debt, who thinks everyone he meets a bailiff. Though they pretend to be easy, there are secret fears which haunt them wherever they go, so that they fear where no present or imminent danger is, Ps 53:5. Those that have made God their enemy, and know it, cannot but see the whole creation at war with them, and therefore can have no true enjoyment of themselves, no confidence, no courage, but a fearful looking for of judgment. Sin makes men cowards.” –copied

**Sin makes you a tool for Satan, to lead others to destruction.** Satan has no scruples, and he uses people. He will use you to destroy others or others to destroy you. That is what happened with a man in the Bible named Amnon, whose “friend,” Jonadab, gave counsel to Amnon how to arrange the rape of his sister. {2 Samuel 13:1-3} Satan does not care what happens to you if he can use you to help him ruin others. You will suffer, your family will suffer, and others will suffer.

**Sin makes you a transgressor of the law, for sin is lawlessness.** *“Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.”* {1 John 3:4} God’s Law was given to govern how we live and conduct ourselves and any time we go against this law, we are sinning. Those who have been truly born again of God cannot, as a habit of life, go on sinning; it is contrary to the new nature which they have. Those who sin are out of harmony with God; they are out of harmony with man

**Sin makes you helpless to deliver yourself from its bondage.** Like a person caught in quicksand, you are not able to pull yourself out. There is a saying that says, “pull yourself up by your bootstraps.” Try standing on a rope, grab each end and then try to pull yourself up and see how far you go.

We are utterly unable to do anything to save or redeem ourselves. The sinner is literally a prisoner of sin, a slave if you will! *“For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly”* {Romans 5:6}

**Sin has a payday for the wages of sin is death.** God promised death for sin, *“But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.”* {Genesis 2:17}

Wages are something a person has earned and deserves. *“For the wages of sin is death;”* {Romans 6:23 a}

A gift is something we do **NOT** deserve; it is given out of love and at the expense of another. *“but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”* {Romans 6:23 b}

Well, you have read what sin can and will do for you, but it need not be that way because there is some good news. *“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* {1 John 1:7-9}

As Christians, in this life we are not perfect, and we know it; we are sinners saved by the grace of our loving and forgiving God. When our earthly journey is over, we will cross over and be with our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, in Heaven. *“We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.”* {2 Corinthians 5:8} In the meantime, we want to live our lives in a way that brings honor and glory to our Saviour. *“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”* {1 Corinthians 10:31}

~Richard A. Ciarrocca/June 2020

All Scripture references are KJV