

“Coming Up Empty – The Sin of Man”

Misc.

Knowing Him and Making Him Known

Have you ever read things in the Newspaper or followed along a news report from Television that caused you to shake your head and wonder who could commit such atrocities against humanity? Today our study is what we are without Christ. This is what lost humanity is. This is what those in Adam are.

Sin, is perhaps, the hardest truth for us to accept, not only because of its hideousness, but because of its application.

I. WHAT IS SIN?

- Sin is a lack of conformity to or rebellion against the Word of God.
- Sin is finding our satisfaction in something other than Jesus Christ.
- Sin says, “He is not enough in this life and in the life to come.”

Following are two terms that describe the character of sin.

- A. Sin is a missing of a mark (Psalm 51:4; Romans 3:23).

The word *coming short* is a very graphic word.

1. Matt 19:20 - "to be lacking (Rich young ruler)"
2. Luke 15:14 - "(prodigal son) to be in want"
3. Heb. 11:37 - "to be destitute"

There is only one reason why we believe we are spiritually okay and it is because we have lowered God’s standard and raised our own ability.

- B. Sin is a passing over a boundary / transgression (Psalm 17:3; Matthew 15:3; 2 John 9).

Transgression assumes absolutes.

II. WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SIN?

Responsibility for sin is placed squarely at the door of man himself. Man is always responsible before a holy God. Notice 3 aspects about sin.

1. Sin in its application is universal in its scope.

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2. Sin not only dominates their lives but it enslaves them to the devil.
 - a. The unsaved are prisoners to sin (John 8:34; Rom. 6:16, 17, 20; 7:14, 23, 25)
 - b. The unsaved are prisoners to Satan (1 John 3:8; John 8:44)

Someone has well said, "The devil has no happy old men."

3. Sin is volitional thus controllable but not changeable.

III. WHAT ARE THE EFFECTS OF SIN?

Two words sum up the consequences of sin, namely, pollution and penalty.

A. The pollution of sin.

Sin has . . .

1. Dulled the ears of man's attention (Matt 13:15; Acts 28:27, Isa 6).
2. Darkened the eyes of man's understanding (Eph 4:18).
3. Diverted the feet of man's walk (Prov14:12; 16:25; Isa 53:6).

B. The penalty of sin.

1. The penalty of sin is to be dead (Rom 6:23, James 1:14, 15).
2. The penalty of sin is to be lost (Luke 15:32, 19:10).
3. The penalty of sin is to be condemned (John 8:10, 11, Rom 8:1).
4. The penalty of sin is to be guilty (Romans 3:19).
5. The penalty of sin is to be eternally separated from God (Mark 9:44, 46, 48, Second Thessalonians 1:9).