



Major Bible Themes

52 VITAL DOCTRINES OF THE SCRIPTURE
SIMPLIFIED AND EXPLAINED

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REVISED BY

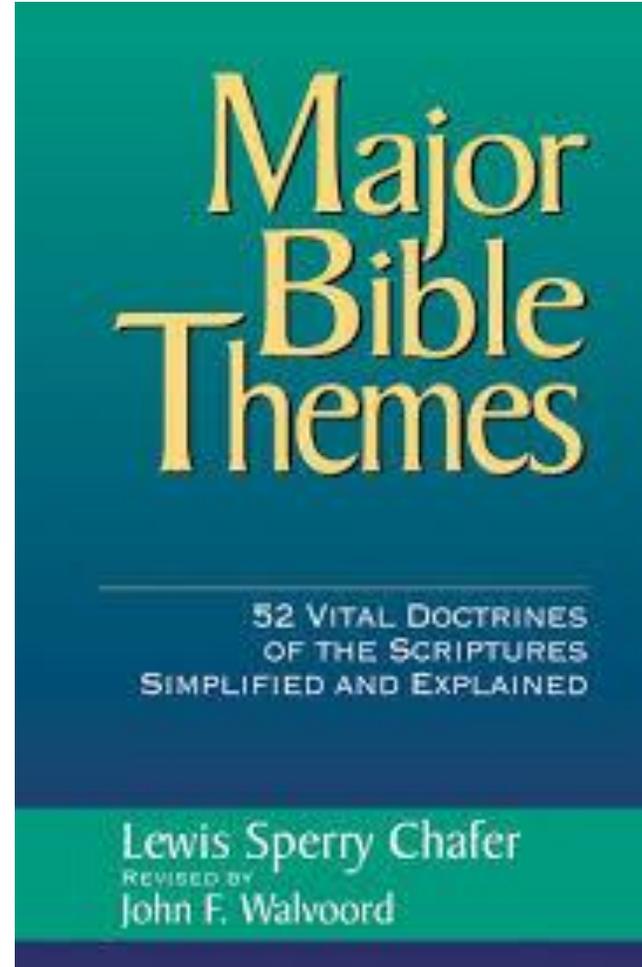
John F. Walvoord

Chapter Twenty Seven – Sin:

Its Character and Universality

Step # One Chapter Twenty Seven- Sin: Its Character and Universality

Find the Outline



Chapter Twenty Seven- Sin: Its Character and Universality

A. Human Speculation

B. Biblical Doctrine of Sin

1. Personal Sin
2. Sin Nature
3. Imputation of Sin
4. Judicial State of Sin

MBT Chapter Twenty Seven Outline

A. Human Speculation

One human speculation is to regard sin as to an illusion, that is, that sin is just a misconception based upon a false theory that there is right and wrong in the world. This theory, of course, fails to face the facts of life and the evils of sin, and denies the existence of a moral God and moral principles.



A common, although inadequate, concept is that sin is just selfishness. While sin is often selfish, this concept does not cover all cases, for man sometimes sins against himself.

MBT Chapter Twenty Seven Outline



Another ancient approach to the problem of sin regards it as an inherent principle, the opposite of what God is, and related to the physical world. This is found in oriental philosophy as well as in Greek Gnosticism and is the background both for asceticism, the denial of the desires of the body, and its opposite, Epicureanism, advocating indulgence of the body. The effect, however, is to deny that man really sins and is accountable to God.

MBT Chapter Twenty Seven Outline

B. **Biblical** Doctrine of Sin

The teaching of Scripture is that sin is any want of conformity to the character of God, whether it be an act, disposition, or state. Various sins are defined in the Word of God as illustrated, for instance, in the Ten Commandments which God gave to Israel. Sin is sin because it is different from what God is and God is eternally holy.

Sin is always against God, even though it may be directed against human beings. A person who sins is, accordingly, unlike God and subject to God's judgment. The doctrine of sin is presented in the Bible in four aspects.



MBT Chapter Twenty Seven Outline

1. Personal Sin

Personal sin is the form of sin which includes everything in the daily life which is against or fails to conform to the character of God. Although at least eight important words are used for sin in the Old Testament and as many as twelve in the New Testament, the basic idea is lack of conformity to God's character and will by acts either of omission or commission. The essential idea is that man comes short, he misses the mark, and he fails to attain the standard of God's own character of holiness.



MBT Chapter Twenty Seven Outline

2. Sin Nature



The sin nature of man is another major aspect of sin as revealed in the Bible. Adam's own initial sin caused him to fall, and in the fall he became an entirely different being, depraved and degenerate, and only capable of begetting posterity like his fallen self. Therefore, every child of Adam is born with the Adamic nature, is ever and always prone to sin, and, though this nature was judged by Christ on the cross it remains a vitally active force in every Christian's life. It is never said to be removed or eradicated in this life, but for the Christian there is overcoming power provided through the indwelling Spirit

MBT Chapter Twenty Seven Outline

As seen in previous study, the reason why men have a sin nature is that it is transmitted to them from their parents. No child ever born in the world has been free from his sin nature except in the unique case of the birth of Christ. Men do not sin and become sinners; it is rather that men sin because they have a sin nature. The remedy for this as well as for personal sin is, of course, the redemption which is provided in salvation in Christ.



MBT Chapter Twenty Seven Outline

3. Imputation of Sin

Sin is also presented in Scripture as imputed or reckoned to our account. As revealed in connection with the fall of man in the preceding chapter, there are three major imputations set forth in the Scriptures: (a) the imputation of Adam's sin to the race, on which fact the doctrine of original sin is based; (b) the imputation of the sin of man to Christ, on which fact the doctrine of salvation is based; and (c) the imputation of the righteousness of God to those who believe on Christ, on which fact the doctrine of justification is based.



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God is not now imputing to man the sin which is antecedently his own. Imputation may be either (a) actual, or (b) judicial. Actual imputation is the reckoning to one of that which is antecedently his own.

Because of the reconciling work of Christ God is not now imputing to man the sin which is antecedently his own

Judicial imputation is the reckoning to one of that which is not antecedently his own.



MBT Chapter Twenty Seven Outline



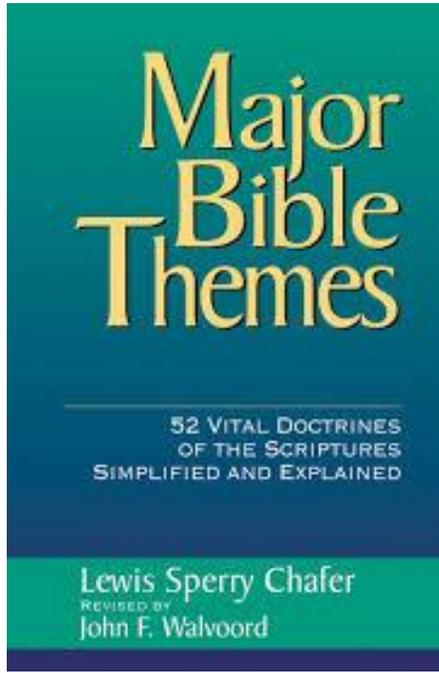
Adam's sin is both Actual and Judicial. Romans 5:12 clearly states that the imputation of Adam's sin is actual, since in the federal head representation, Adam's posterity sinned when he sinned. However, Romans 5:17-18 implies that his imputation is also judicial, as it is stated that by one man's sin judgment came upon all men. Only the one initial sin of Adam is in question. Its effect is death - both to Adam and directly from Adam to each member of the race.

MBT Chapter Twenty Seven Outline



The resulting judicial state of sin for the entire human race is also presented in Scripture. By divine reckoning the whole world, including Jew and Gentile, is now "under sin" To be under sin is to be divinely reckoned to be without merit which might contribute toward salvation. Since salvation is by grace alone and grace excludes all human merit, God has decreed all, as regards their salvation, to be "under sin".

The next principle is to build a physical file cabinet



Mike Borland

What does the Bible teach about Sin: its Character and Universality

Chapter 27- Sin: Its Character and Universality

Using Major Bible Themes write a study explaining Sin: Its Character and Universality

Memorize it



Chapter Twenty Seven- Sin: Its Character and Universality

A. Human Speculation

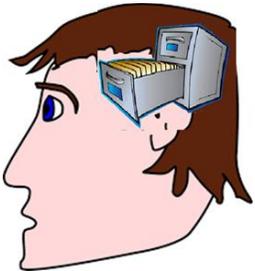
B. **Biblical** Doctrine of Sin

1. Personal Sin

2. Sin Nature

3. Imputation of Sin

4. Judicial State of Sin



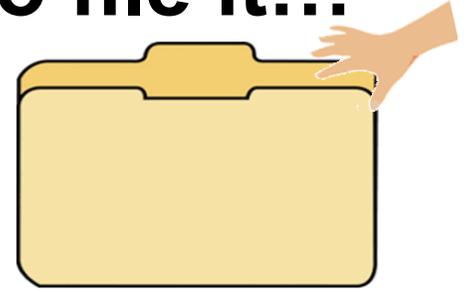
Chapter Twenty Seven- Sin: Its Character and Universality

A. Human Speculation

B. Biblical Doctrine of Sin

1. Personal Sin
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To file it...



Write it Down



Underline Main Words...



Step # Two

Read the Section and look up the passages



Chapter Twenty Seven- Sin: Its Character and Universality

B. Biblical Doctrine of Sin

Various sins are defined in the Word of God

Exo 20:3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Exo 20:4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image

Exo 20:7 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain

Exo 20:8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Exo 20:12 Honor thy father and thy mother:

Exo 20:13 Thou shalt not kill.

Exo 20:14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Exo 20:15 Thou shalt not steal.

Exo 20:16 Thou shalt not bear false witness

Exo 20:17 Thou shalt not covet

Sin is always against God

Psa 51:4 *Against thee, **thee only, have I sinned**, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou might be justified when thou speak, and be clear when thou judgest.*

Luk 15:18 *I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have **sinned against heaven**, and before thee,*

1. Personal Sin

Rom 3:23 *For **all have sinned**, and come short of the glory of God;*

2. Sin Nature

The sin nature of man

Rom 5:19 *For as by one man's disobedience **many were made sinners**, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.*

Eph 2:3 *Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and **were by nature the children of wrath**, even as others.*

Sin nature was judged by Christ on the cross

Rom 6:6 *Knowing this, that our **old man is crucified with him**, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.*

Through his nature man is corrupted by sin

Rom 1:28 *And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, **God gave them over to a reprobate mind**, to do those things which are not seemly;*

Rom 3:11-18 *There is **none** that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are **all** gone out of the way, they are **together** become unprofitable; there is **none** that doeth good, no, **not one**. Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: Their feet are swift to shed blood: Destruction and misery are in their ways: And the way of peace have they not known: There is **no fear** of God before their eyes.*

His conscience is seared

1Ti 4:2 *Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their **conscience seared** with a hot iron;*

His heart blinded

Eph 4:18 *Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the **blindness of their heart:***

His intellect is blinded

2Co 4:4 *In whom the god of this world hath **blinded the minds** of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.*

His will is corrupt

Rom 1:28 *And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, **God gave them over to a reprobate mind**, to do those things which are not seemly;*

Overcoming power provided through the indwelling Spirit

Rom 8:4 *That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*

Gal 5:16 *This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.*

3. Imputation of Sin

Sin is imputed or reckoned to our account

Rom 5:12 *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 clearly states that the imputation of Adam's sin is actual

Rom 5:12 *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**:*

Judicial imputation is the reckoning to one of that which is not antecedently his own

Phm 1:18 *If he hath wronged thee, or owes thee anything, put that **on mine account**;*

Romans 5:17-18 implies that his. imputation is also judicial

Rom 5:18 *Therefore as by the offence of one **judgment came upon all men to condemnation**; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.*

God is not now imputing to man the sin which is antecedently his own

2Co 5:19 *To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, **not imputing their trespasses** unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.*

4. Judicial State of Sin

The whole world, including Jew and Gentile, is now "under sin"

Rom 3:9 *What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are **all under sin**;*

Rom 11:32 *For God hath concluded them **all in unbelief**, that he might have mercy upon all.*

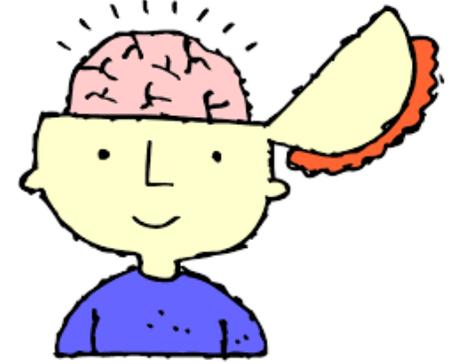
Gal 3:22 *But the scripture hath concluded **all under sin**, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.*

Step # Three

Memorize one Passage per section

Learn general and specific later.

- Highlight key words
- Understand difficult words and the meaning



Read out loud 5 times what you are trying to memorize



Write the verse on paper or put the verse into you phone



Step # Four Take the Test at the end of the chapter

1. What are some inadequate concepts of sin which are sometimes advanced?

1. Sin is just a misconception based upon a false theory that there is right and wrong in the world.
2. Sin is just selfishness.
3. Sin is an inherent principle, the opposite of what God is

2. How does the Bible, in general, define sin?

The teaching of Scripture is that sin is any want of conformity to the character of God, whether it be an act, disposition, or state.

3. What sins are specifically mentioned in the Ten Commandments?

Exo 20:3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Exo 20:4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image

Exo 20:7 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain

Exo 20:8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

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Exo 20:14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Exo 20:15 Thou shalt not steal.

Exo 20:16 Thou shalt not bear false witness

Exo 20:17 Thou shalt not covet

3. Why is sin always a sin against God?

A person who sins is, accordingly, unlike a perfect God and subject to God's judgment.

4. What four aspects of sin are presented in the Bible?

1. Personal Sin

2. Sin Nature

3. Imputation of Sin

4. Judicial State of Sin

5. What is meant by personal sin?

Personal sin is the form of sin which includes everything in the daily life which is against or fails to conform to the character of God.

6. What does the Bible teach about the sin nature of man?

Adam's own initial sin caused him to fall, and in the fall he became an entirely different being, depraved and degenerate, and only capable of begetting posterity like his fallen self. Therefore, every child of Adam is born with the Adamic nature, is ever and always prone to sin

7. To what extent is man depraved?

- His conscience is seared
- His heart blinded
- His intellect is blinded
- His will is corrupt

8. How do you account for the fact that all children are born sinners?

Adam's sin was imputed to our account and we received through our parents a sin nature

9. What are the three major imputations?

Adam's sin to us, our sin to Christ, Christ's righteousness to us

10. What is meant by actual imputation?

Actual imputation is the reckoning to one of that which is antecedently his own

11. What is meant by judicial imputation?

Judicial imputation is the reckoning to one of that which is not antecedently his own

12. Is there scriptural evidence that the whole world is in a judicial state of sin?

Rom 3:9 *What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are **all under sin**;*

Rom 11:32 *For God hath concluded them **all in unbelief**, that he might have mercy upon all.*

Gal 3:22 *But the scripture hath concluded **all under sin**, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.*

Why is a proper understanding of the doctrine of sin important to understanding the doctrine of salvation?

Taken as a whole, the Bible clearly indicates the devastating effects of sin upon man and the hopelessness of man solving his own sin problem. The proper understanding of the doctrine of sin is essential to understanding God's remedy for it.