LESSON 37

Sin

Introduction

In our last lesson we learned about the fall of man because sin entered through Adam.

Today men mock at sin considering it as only a human weakness or tendency.

When a sense of sin falls upon mankind they will turn to God for mercy.

Not until we understand the awfulness of sin can we understand Calvary; only as we comprehend the meaning of Calvary do we see the exceeding sinfulness of sin as viewed by a holy, righteous God

I. Definition of Sin

The dictionary calls it transgression, evil, a violation of an accepted moral, religious or social code.

“Sin is any lack of conformity to the character of God whether in act or state."

“Sin is a hopelessly incurable disease of the soul" (the leprosy or cancer of sin).

“Sin is characteristic of the old nature, the flesh and finds expression daily."

I John 3:4, ".. . for sin is the transgression of the law."

(1) Sin is an act; the breaking of a law or commandment is sin.

(2) Sin is a state; the fallen state of man without righteousness.

(3) Sin is a nature; the nature of fallen man at enmity against God

II. Origin of Sin

1. Sin originated with Satan, Isa. 14:12-14. This is explained in Jas. 1 :14,15, "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. "

2. Sin entered the world through Adam. Rom. 5:12, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin . . ."

3. The fact of the fall of man, Gen. 3 :1-6.

(a) listened to the slanders against God

(b) doubted God's love and His Word

(c) looked at what God had forbidden

(d) lusted for what God had prohibited

(e) absolute disobedience to God's commands.

III. The Manifestations of Sin

1. Transgression--the overstepping of the law. Psa. 51:1, "Blot out my transgressions."

2. Iniquity--an act inherently wrong or forbidden, as breaking a commandment.

3. Error-the departure from right. Psa. 51:9, ". . . and blot out all mine iniquities."

4. Missing the mark--the failure to meet the divine standard. I John 5 :17, Rom. 3 :23.

5. Trespass--the intrusion of the self-will into the sphere of God's authority.

6. Lawlessness--this is spiritual anarchy. I Tim. 1:9, ". . . for the lawless and disobedient."

7. Debt--a failure in duty, the sin of omission, the things that we leave undone.

8. Unbelief--an insult to the divine veracity of God. Heb. 3:12, ". . . evil heart of unbelief."

IV. List of Sins

1. Ex 20:3-17 (The ten commandments): idolatry, cursing, Sabbath breaking, 8pect to parents, murder, adultery, stealing, lying, covetousness. (9 sins)

2. 1 Cor 6:9,10: effeminate, masturbation, drunkards, revilers, extortioners. (5 sins)

3. Rom. 1 :29-31: unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, maliciousness, envy, debate, deceit, malignity, whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful. (19 sins)

4. I Tim. 1:9-11: lawlessness, disobedience, unholiness, profanity, whoremonger, kidnapping. (six sins)

5. Col. 3:5-8: inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication. (7 sins)

6. Gal. 5:19-21: lasciviousness, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, strife, seditions, heresies, revellings. (9 sins)

7. Mark 7 :20-23: evil thoughts, an evil eye, foolishness. (3 sins) A total of over fifty different sins with many variations of each one.

V. Sin Cannot Be Hidden

Num. 32:23, "But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the Lord: and be sure your sin will find you out.

Pro. 28:13, "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.”

It is not only the sin that will be discovered but the sinner will be revealed, too.

God sees and uncovers hidden sins--Adam, Cain, Achan, Ananias and Sapphira tried to hide things from God but failed to do so.

VI. The Results of Sin

1. Death--a denotative word signifying separation. Rom. 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.?

2. Lost--man is lost to God, and man is lost from heaven. Luke 15:24, "For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.?

3. Condemnation--this is a judicial word signifying God's judgment. John 3:18, .j..'" ". . . but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." .

4. Guilt--an indicative word signifying being conscience-stricken. Gen. 26:10, "...one of the people might lightly have lien with thy wife, and thou shouldest have brought guiltiness upon us.

5. Perdition--a prospective word signifying destruction and damnation. I Tim 6:9, ". . . which drown men in destruction and perdition."

6. Punishment--a conscious word signifying penal infliction. Matt. 25 :46, "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment.?

7. Eternal fire--a durative word signifying the length of punishment. Jude 7, ". . . are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.?

8. Hell--the abode of the devil and those who follow him. Matt. 25:41, "Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from Me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels."

9. Lake of fire--the second death. Rev. 20:14, "And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. "

VII. The Remedy for Sin

Christ in His atonement and resurrection is the only remedy for sin.

John 1 :29, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world"

I John 3:5, "And ye know that He was manifested to take away our sins; and in Him is no sin."

No man can cleanse himself from sin. Job 9:30,31, "If I wash myself with snow water, and make my hands never so clean; yet shalt Thou plunge me in the ditch.?

Jer. 2:22, "For though thou wash thee with nitre, and take thee much soap, yet thine iniquity is marked before Me, saith the lord God."

The remedy for sin is forgiveness through the Blood of Christ. Eph. 1:7, "In whom we have redemption through His Blood, the forgiveness of sins.? I John 1:7, "... and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin."

No man is without sin, therefore we all need a Saviour. Gal. 3 :22, "But the Scripture hath concluded ALL under sin." Rom. 3:23, "For ALL have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

Conclusion

Christ is the required Saviour for He alone was without sin.

II Cor. 5:21, "For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." Heb. 4:15, "For we have not an High Priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet WITHOUT sin." I John 3 :5, ". . . and in Him is no sin." I Pet. 2 :22, "Who did no sin . . ." God is too holy to condone or look at sin (Hab. 1:13), "Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity." A prayer: "Lord, teach me to see the exceeding sinfulness of sin (Rom. 7 :13), and teach me to hate sin." (Psa. 97:10). "Ye that love the Lord, hate evil." "Lord, teach me to confess my sin." (I John 1:9) "Lord, teach me to forsake sin." (Pro. 28 :13)

Review Questions

361. What is the key to understanding Calvary?
362. Define sin.
363. List and define the 3 aspects of sin.

364. Give 4 Scriptures that deal with the origin of sin.
365. Give 8 manifestations of sin and a short explanation of each.
366. List two passages (one from the O. T. and one from the N. T.) that give lists of sins.
367. What major truths do we learn from Num. 32:23 and Pro. 28:13, about sin?
368. Give 9 results of sin with a short explanation of each.
369. What is the remedy for sin ?
370. Give a fourfold prayer of a Christian regarding sin.