

# SIN: It's life shattering

*"Either sin is with you, lying on your shoulders, or it is lying on Christ, the Lamb of God"*  
— Dwight L. Moody

## SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

Psalm 32:5

"Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.' And you forgave the guilt of my sin."

James 4:7

"Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Romans 5:12

"Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned."

1 John 1:9

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

1 John 2:16

"For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world."

Have you ever driven down a highway and had a small rock hit your windshield? You notice it leaves a small crack in the glass, but although frustrating, you think it is hardly noticeable and not worth the trouble of having it fixed.

Time passes and the small crack grows, but you still think the glass is not worth replacing. At some point, however, with the slightest bit of added pressure, that small crack in the glass becomes a **shattered** windshield.

Sin works in a similar way. It hits an area of your life and starts as a **small** crack, not usually big enough for anyone to notice. However, as time passes, the sin in your life continues to **grow** like a crack in the glass.

... Before you know it, that once small sin is now running through your **ENTIRE** life, **shattering** it, **obstructing** your view, and **demonstrating** the results for **EVERYONE** to see.

## WHAT IS SIN?

By the original translation of the Bible, sin means to "miss the mark." In this case, to miss the mark is to miss the standard of perfection established by God and evidenced by Jesus. We are all sinners.

*Romans 3:23*

*"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."*

## WHAT CAUSES SIN?

*Read the story of  
The Fall here:  
[Genesis 3](#)*

The SOURCE of SIN is SATAN. God tells us in the book of Genesis how Satan, in the form of a serpent, convinced Eve to eat from the tree of Good and Evil. Eve then went to her husband, Adam, who also chose to eat from the tree. By disobeying God and listening to the lies of Satan, sin entered the entire human race. Sin brought death, which spread to everyone, for everyone sinned ([Romans 5:12](#)).



Jesus had to come to earth because humankind had become separated from God and was in a fallen, sinful state. Sin separated mankind from God. Adam and Eve died spiritually when they rebelled against God's Word (Genesis 2:16-17; 3:1-6); Adam and Eve's sin affected the whole world. We live in a fallen world. Humankind is separated from God. Every person is guilty of sin and stands in danger of God's judgment.

God created humans to have fellowship with Him, but sin and rebellion separate us from Him. So God decided to make a way to restore that relationship by sending His Son, Jesus, to give His life as a sacrifice for humanity.

Satan was a murderer from the beginning and has always hated the truth. There is NO truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is the father of lies ([John 8:43-45](#)). However, Satan continues to try to manipulate and deceive our thoughts and hearts so that as followers of Christ, we stray away from truth.

## HOW DOES SATAN WORK?

God warns us that our heart is the wellspring of life and that we are to guard it ([Proverbs 4:23](#)).

*"For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, and slander. These are what defile a person"* ([Matthew 15:19-20](#)).

Temptation and lust comes from one's own evil desires, which lead to evil actions, and evil actions can lead to death—physical, emotional, spiritual. ([James 1:14-15](#)).

To LUST is to have "a passionate or overmastering desire or craving." The Bible tells us that there are 3 main types of lust: lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. Each of these are not of God but are of the world. ([1 John 2:16](#))

Maybe you find that you struggle with lusting after a person (flesh), power, money, materialistic things, attention, etc. In James 1, God tells us that we sin because we lust.

*Ask yourself: What things do I lust after and desire?  
Do I have... a lust of the flesh?  
lust of the eyes? lust of the  
pride of life?*

## HOW CAN YOU PREVENT OR AVOID SINNING?

We are not perfect beings, and therefore cannot always prevent sin. However, we can do our best to fight the temptations to act upon our sin. Each time we sin, we disappoint God. Therefore we must strive to conquer our sins and temptations to prevent disappointing Him. You know that your sin causes God grief, and because you love Him, you will choose to obey His commands and prevent disappointing Him.

God reminds us that with every temptation, He will provide a way out. Read [1 Corinthians 10:13](#). God is faithful and will not let you be tempted beyond what you can handle. However, even when you do not fight the temptations and fail Him, God remains faithful and forgives you of your sins when you repent. [1 John 1:5-10](#)

*Choose not to compromise your boundaries.  
Uphold your commitment to God—not challenge it!  
When temptation comes your way...  
go the opposite direction!*



## HOW DO YOU DEAL WITH YOUR MISTAKES?

Because you are not perfect, you will fall. There are times you will make wrong choices,

cause God grief, and feel guilty. However, God is faithful when you realize you have “missed the mark” and come to Him through repentance. Repentance is demonstrating a regret for any past wrong action. But once you have repented and confessed your sin to God, you must make a point to turn around and think and act differently. Once you have repented, confessed, and made the decision to change your sinful behavior, you must choose to accept God’s forgiveness. You must have faith in accepting God’s forgiveness and stop beating yourself up. Sometimes you may not feel you deserve to be forgiven, but the truth is that no one really deserves it.

God’s forgiveness is unmerited.

He loves you UNCONDITIONALLY and promises that He will forgive you, if you ask for it.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- 📄 [God's Forgiveness](#)  
Billy Graham
- 📄 [Reacting to Sin](#)  
Focus on the Family
- 📄 [Run!](#)  
Mary Southerland
- 📄 [SIN](#)  
Devotional Christian
- 📄 [The Lull of Everyday Sin](#)  
Mike Ruffin
- 🎵 [Because I'm Forgiveness](#)  
Phillips, Craig, & Dean
- 🎵 [You Are My King \(Amazing Love\)](#)  
Newsboys

*“Though we cannot eliminate the temptation to sin,  
we are not left without redemptive resources.  
God is on our side, Jesus is advocating for us, and  
the Holy Spirit is making us aware of our weaknesses.”*  
--- David McKenna