

The Doctrine of **Sin**

Mankind is fallen and sinful. This is clear to us both from the teaching of scripture and from our experience living in the fallen world. All that is difficult and painful in the world—physical pain and illness; emotional betrayal and pain; intellectual error; social disintegration; spiritual error and rebellion and physical and spiritual death—all is the result of sin and rebellion against God. This sin has its origin in Adam and Eve's first temptation and failure and that has its origin in the Father of Lies: Satan, the source of evil in the world. In this session, we'll talk about both Satan and sin: what the Bible teaches about him, his origins, his work and his end; and about the sin that pervades our earth and still affects us in this world despite haven been conquered by Christ's death and resurrection.

BRBC Doctrinal Statement on The Holy Spirit:

SIN: Sin, which originated with Satan, entered into the human race through Adam. The penalty of sin is physical and spiritual death. Every man who has ever lived, except Jesus Christ, has personally committed sin. There are several types of sin including: a transgression or violation of God's law; iniquity, that is an act which is inherently evil; failing to do what is right; missing the mark; acting in accordance with self-will rather than the will of God; rebellion against God; unbelief or a denial of the truth of God. The only cure for sin is salvation through Jesus Christ.

Key references: Genesis 2:16-17; 3:10-19; John 3:36; Romans 3:23; 6:23; I Corinthians 2:14; Ephesians 2:1-3; I Timothy 2:3-14; I John 1:8

Satan:

Additional names: The Adversary, Devil, Lucifer, Beelzebub, Belial, the evil one, Prince of the age of this world, ruler of the kingdom of the air, angel of light, the Accuser, Liar, Tempter, god of this age, Serpent, Dragon

He is a created being, and thus neither omniscient nor omnipotent

He is limited in his power by God

His defeat has already been accomplished at the cross, and will one day be destroyed

Sin:

To miss the mark (and to hit the wrong mark!)

Khata: moral failure

Pesha: a transgression or violation of God's law; rebellion and betrayal of a relationship

Avon: Iniquity, to be bent out of shape. An act of evil

All the terms for sin can be summed up as *prideful rebellion*. It is a violation of the ideal because it is opposite of the person and character of God. It always opposes God's law and His created beings.