

THE DOCTRINES OF GRACE

LESSON 3 ORIGINAL SIN

Look up the following verses. Make some observations about what they teach concerning the scope of the sin problem.

- 1 Kings 8:46
- Psalm 130:3
- Ecclesiastes 7:20
- Isaiah 53:6
- Romans 3:9, 23; 11:32
- Galatians 3:22
- James 3:2
- 1 John 1:8-10

Now look up these verses, making observations about what they teach concerning the start of the sin problem.

- Genesis 8:21
- Job 15:14
- Psalm 51:1-5

- Psalm 58:3
- Isaiah 48:8
- Jeremiah 17:9
- Ephesians 2:1-3; 6:4

Finally, look up Romans 6:23, noting the result of the sin problem.

So far, you should have observed from Scripture that all people sin, all people are born sinners, and all people die as a result. Sin is a universal problem, affecting every person. What do you think is the explanation for such a universal sin problem?

From the verses above, we can conclude that all people die because “all” have sinned. Scripture makes one more assertion concerning the sin problem though. In addition, we can say that all people die because “one” has sinned. Have you ever heard of “original sin”? How would you define original sin?

Read Romans 5:12-21 and try answering the following questions.

- Verse 12 begins with “therefore.” What is the connection between this passage and the previous context? See at least verses 1-11.

- List out all the comparisons and contrasts you can between Adam and Jesus in this passage.

	Conditional clauses	Consequent clauses
V12	<u>Just as</u> (<i>hosper</i>) through one man sin entered into the world	
V15	If by the transgression of the one the many died	Much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many
V17	For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one	Much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ
V18	So then <u>as</u> (<i>hos</i>) through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men	<u>Even so</u> (<i>houtos</i>) through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men
V19	For <u>as</u> (<i>hosper</i>) through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners	<u>Even so</u> (<i>houtos</i>) through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous
V21	<u>As</u> (<i>hosper</i>) sin reigned in death	<u>Even so</u> (<i>houtos</i>) grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord

	Pelagianism	Arminianism	Calvinism
Death spread to all men because all sinned	X	X	X
Death spread to all men because one sinned		X	X
We inherited Adam's sin nature		X	X
We inherited Adam's guilt			X