



# **STUDYING SIN SERIOUSLY**

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**What Is Sin?**

**Chapter 2**

**Part 2**

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## What Is Sin? Chapter 2 Part 2 (Page 2)

### II. THE BIBLE'S EPITHETS FOR SIN

Webster defines epithets as, "A characterizing word or phrase accompanying or occurring in place of the name of a person or thing."

There are a number of words used in both the Old Testament (Hebrew) and the New Testament (Greek) regarding sin.

#### 1. Old Testament:

1. transgression, 2. iniquity, and 3. Sin (Exodus 34:7, Psalm 32:1-2; 51:1-4; Isaiah 59:12).

(1) **Sin is transgression.** (Psalm 51:1,3).

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Young's Analytical Concordance, "transgression" is a translation of several Hebrew words, **persha** most frequently used. Means, "transgression, rebellion." **(Exodus 34:7; Psalm 32:1, 2; 51:2, 4; Isaiah 59: 1, 2)**

"**Persha**" means rebellion, transgression---setting one's self against the will and law of God.

It is an act of high treason against the sovereign (Supreme Ruler) of the universe.

The sinner is a rebel!

Sin then is a clenched fist; and its object is the face of God.

Realizing sin is rebellion, rebellion against God (**Psalms 51:4**) Sin is more than just breaking a set of rules and regulations.

Rebellion against, and a defiance of, the Ruler and Regulator himself.

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King Saul in **1 Samuel 15** is a graphic illustration. (**1 Samuel 15:22, 23**).

“transgression” emphasizes one’s contempt for the lawmaker.

Whereas “iniquity”, emphasizes contempt for “the law” itself as we shall see.

**(2) Sin is iniquity.** (**Psalm 51:2,5**)

From the Hebrew **avon** and is defined by Young as “perversity”. Clarke says “**crooked dealing**”. “**Avon**”, iniquity, means that which is “twisted or crooked”. In reality depravity of conduct.

Iniquity means that which is twisted, bent, wrong, or warped from the straight line of right.

God’s word draws a line.

Our responsibility to walk parallel-to walk a straight line-to that word.

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Bending neither to the right or to the left. (**Deuteronomy 5:32; Joshua 1:7**).

We cannot deviate the least bit, in doctrine or practice, from truth.

The shortest distance from earth to heaven is a straight line.

Yes, truth is absolute!

Situation ethics is directly opposed to the Biblical concept of sin being iniquity.

(3) ~~Sin is "sin".~~ (**Psalm 51:4**) The Hebrew word is **chata** and is defined by Young as "to sin, err, miss the mark."

Hence, sin is falling short of God's purpose or mark for us.

Christ is God's purpose for us.

The object of all living must be Christlikeness.

When we do not live up to the standard, we sin.

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## What Is Sin? Chapter 2 Part 2 (Page 6)

Readily we can see that the sinner is a failure.

Very definition of the word “sin” conveys the futility of sin

Words used in the New Testament for sin..

(1) **Sin is missing the mark.** Greek word is hamartia.

Appears in (Romans 3:23; 1 Corinthians 8:12; 15:34; Ephesians 4:26; 1 John 1:10; 2:1).

(2) **Sin transgressing or overpassing a line.** Greek word is parabasis.

Appears in (Romans 4:15; Galatians 3:19; 1 Timothy 2:14; Hebrews 2:2; 9:15).

“Hold that line”, is to be our cry.

Responsibility both offensively and defensively.

We must stay on the right side of the line.

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The Line between truth and error, right and wrong, the church and denominationalism, purity and immorality, spirituality and worldliness, etc.

**(3) Sin is falling where one should have stood.**

Greek word is **paraptoma**.

Appears in **(Romans 4:25; 5:15, 16, 17, 18, 20)**.

**(4) Sin is lawlessness.**

Greek word is **anomia**.

Appears in **(Matthew 7:23; 13:41; 24:12; Titus 2:14)**.

**(5) Sin is binding the right and making it crooked.**

Greek word is **adikia**.

Appears in **(Acts 8:23; 1 Corinthians 13:6; 2 Timothy 2:19)**.