

STARTING WITH SIN

A SERIES ON HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE

*“Let no man deceive himself.
If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world,
let him become a fool, that he may be wise.”*

~ 1 Corinthians 3:18

1. Sin and Bible Study

- a. Without salvation you will not grow in understanding of God’s word – 1 Cor 2:14
- b. You cannot be saved, unless you are first a sinner – 1 Tim 1:15
- c. Genesis 3 affects how we study the Bible, because it affects our view of ourselves
- d. Sin means we are the sinner, God is the truth teller - Rom 3:4, 9, 23; 5:12, 19
- e. Sin means we say nothing right about the Bible until we learn from it – 1 Cor 4:4
- f. We do not come to the Bible as its judge, choosing what to believe and what not
- g. God gets the benefit of the doubt, our trust, our listening ear, b/c of sin in us
- h. Studying the Bible is a lesson in humility before God

2. What is Sin

- a. The world hates to talk about it, and denies it exists, but loves to do it – Prov 24:9
- b. Sin will change your perspective on the world (people in churches don’t sin, right?)
- c. It is not psychological disorder, lifestyle choice, human, preference, different idea
- d. Sin is called darkness, transgression, foolishness, wickedness, wrongdoing, iniquity
- e. Sin means we do not esteem God high enough, and overestimate ourselves
- f. Sin is more than breaking a law: 1John 3:4, Rom 4:15, it is Pro 24:9, Rom 14:23
- g. What sinners think is right (sacrifice and plowing) can be sin – Prov 21:2-3, 27
- h. God’s nature exposes our inferiority to him; this is why men deny him – Rom 1:21
- i. Sin is anything contrary to God’s righteous and holy nature

3. Consequences of Sin

- a. The wages of sin is death in the flesh, but also the spirit - Romans 6:23, Eph 2:1
- b. The consequence of sin is more than just a divine parking ticket to be paid
- c. It results in corruption, misunderstanding, ignorance, doubt, selfishness, pride
- d. Sin affects our reasoning and thinking about God – Rom 1:22-23, 3:11, Titus 1:15
- e. A sinner’s thoughts about God are vain, darkened, reprobate, wicked, untrustworthy, and ignorant (Rom 1:21,22,28-31, Eph 4:18-19)
- f. The error of our wisdom is that it is not of the scriptures - Mat 22:29, Acts 17:2

4. Before Bible Study

- a. Don’t be deceived, before Bible study, you must become the “fool” 1 Cor 3:18-19
- b. If you think you are wise, you know nothing as you ought - 1 Cor 8:2
- c. In Christ are hid the treasures of wisdom and knowledge – 1 Cor 1:30, Col 2:3
- d. Sin is present in you and affects your reasoning, God is not affected by sin
- e. Before we study the Bible we must believe it, let God be true before you doubt him
- f. Bible retranslation is not Bible study - leave the text alone, let it say what it says to whom it says it, make the choice before you begin to submit to God’s words