

Tusculum Hills Baptist Church
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Sermon title: Biblical Facts About Sin – Part 1, Romans

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INTRODUCTION: Sin is an extensive subject, and it's going to take at least two Sundays to cover all the facts involved. So, today, we'll begin with Part 1 of "Biblical Facts About Sin." There are 12 facts we will cover today, and they are:

1. ALL have sinned.
2. Sin is a choice.
3. As free moral agents, we choose sin, just like Eve.
4. Satan is the father of sin.
5. Laws are made for sinners.
6. Sin is not inherited.
7. Sin is unpardonable if we reject Jesus.
8. Sin separates us from God.
9. Sin enslaves.
10. Sin finds one out.
11. Sin keeps one from prospering.
12. Sin brings reproach.

Fact 1: ALL have sinned.

SCRIPTURE: Romans 3:23 ²³*for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God*

I certainly hope no one here thinks he or she is sinless. I certainly hope no one watching on TV thinks he or she is sinless.

Sin is everywhere. It is all around us. We sin; therefore, we are sinners.

Fact 2: Sin is a choice.

SCRIPTURE: Romans 1:18 ¹⁸ *The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness,*

Verse 21: ²¹ *For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.*

Verse 28: ²⁸ *Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done.*

Even though sin is a choice, it is so easy for us to blame others for our sin

It is easy for us to blame circumstances for our sin. Someone might say, “If only my circumstances were different, I would not have sinned.”

But, ultimately sin is a choice, and we are held accountable for our choices, which leads me to the next point...

Fact 3: As free moral agents we choose sin, just like Eve.

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 3:2-6 ² *The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,³ but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”*

⁴ *“You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman.* ⁵ *“For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”*

⁶ *When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.*

Yes, Eve was deceived, but no one took the fruit and forced her to eat it. She took the fruit because she wanted to.

Fact 4: Satan is the father of sin.

In John 8, people argued with Jesus over whose children they were. They said they were Abraham's children and God was their Father. Jesus told them if God was their Father, they would love him.

SCRIPTURE: John 8:44 ⁴⁴ *You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.*

Fact 5: Laws are made for sinners.

SCRIPTURE: 1 Timothy 1:9-10 ⁹ *We also know that the law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, ¹⁰ for the sexually immoral, for those practicing homosexuality, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine*

If no one sinned, there would be no need for laws.

Fact 6: Sin is not inherited.

SCRIPTURE: Ezekiel 18:20 ²⁰ *The one who sins is the one who will die. The child will not share the guilt of the parent, nor will the parent share the guilt of the child. The righteousness of the righteous will be credited to them, and the wickedness of the wicked will be charged against them.*

You cannot say, "I sin because my mother and father sinned."

You must admit, "I sin because I choose to sin."

Two weeks ago, I preached from Romans 5 about Adam's sin, which caused death. We inherited death from Adam, but we choose to sin of our own free will.

Fact 7: Sin is unpardonable if we reject Jesus.

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 12:31 ³¹ *And so I tell you, every kind of sin and slander can be forgiven, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.*

I've heard talk about the unpardonable sin. But, here it is: blasphemy of the Holy Spirit. What is that? It is refusing to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit to be saved. The unpardonable sin is the rejection of Jesus Christ!

Fact 8: Sin separates us from God.

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 59:1-2 ¹ *Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. ² But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.*

There is not really much explaining that needs to be done with this verse. It's plain and simple, sin separates us from God. And, you cannot make up for your sin by doubling your good effort.

ILLUSTRATION: Susan and I know a person who says things he should not say and later makes up for it by bringing gifts to people. It would be a whole lot less expensive if he'd just apologize, or better yet, just not say the ugly things he says.

BIBLICAL ILLUSTRATION: In Genesis, God required a sacrifice to be right with Him. A man named Abel did the required sacrifice. His brother Cain brought gifts. That is not what God required.

Listen to me: Sin separates us from God and will ultimately bring spiritual death.

SCRIPTURE: Romans 6:23 ²³ *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Fact 9: Sin enslaves.

SCRIPTURE: Romans 1:21-32 ²¹ *For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.²² Although they claimed to be wise, they*

became fools²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

²⁴ Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ²⁵ They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

²⁶ Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. ²⁷ In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed shameful acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error.

²⁸ Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. ²⁹ They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, ³⁰ slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; ³¹ they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. ³² Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

Sinners serve sin as their master.

Later on, Paul talks about this slavery again.

SCRIPTURE: Romans 7:23-25 *²³ but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. ²⁴ What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in my sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.*

Fact 10: Sin finds one out.

SCRIPTURE: Numbers 32:23 ²³*But if you fail to do this, you will be sinning against the LORD; and you may be sure that your sin will find you out.*

I heard someone say this: “You never sin alone. It always involves someone else or affects someone else.”

Fact 11: Sin keeps one from prospering.

SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 28:13 ¹³*Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.*

I am not a prosperity preacher—there is a massive amount of heresy around prosperity preaching today, but look at this truth: The road to prosperity begins with confessing and renouncing sin.

Fact 12: Sin brings reproach.

SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 14:34 ³⁴*Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin condemns any people.*

The reason our country is not exalted is because we are a sinful nation. We are a nation that loves sin. The less righteous we are as a nation, the more sinful we become.

CONCLUSION: I’ve given you 12 biblical facts about sin. I hope you listened because sin is a huge problem. In fact, it’s so huge that all problems stem from it.

Old fashioned sin is still sin. You cannot take a new look at old sin and come out with a new definition of sin. Sin is sin.

So, what do we do with our sin? We seek the forgiveness of Jesus because he has paid the price for our sins.

SCRIPTURE: I John 1:9 ⁹*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*

We are going to have our invitation hymn where I ask people who need to receive Jesus as Lord and Savior to come forward. I ask people who have already received Jesus to come forward and make a public profession of your faith.

Let us pray: *“Dear Father, Thank you for providing a way for us to get to you through Jesus. Thank you for loving us even though we are sinners. Let us live for Christ and sin less and we get to know him more. For the person here who needs to be saved today, send your Spirit of conviction. In Jesus name, Amen.”*

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Sincerely, Paul Gunn
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