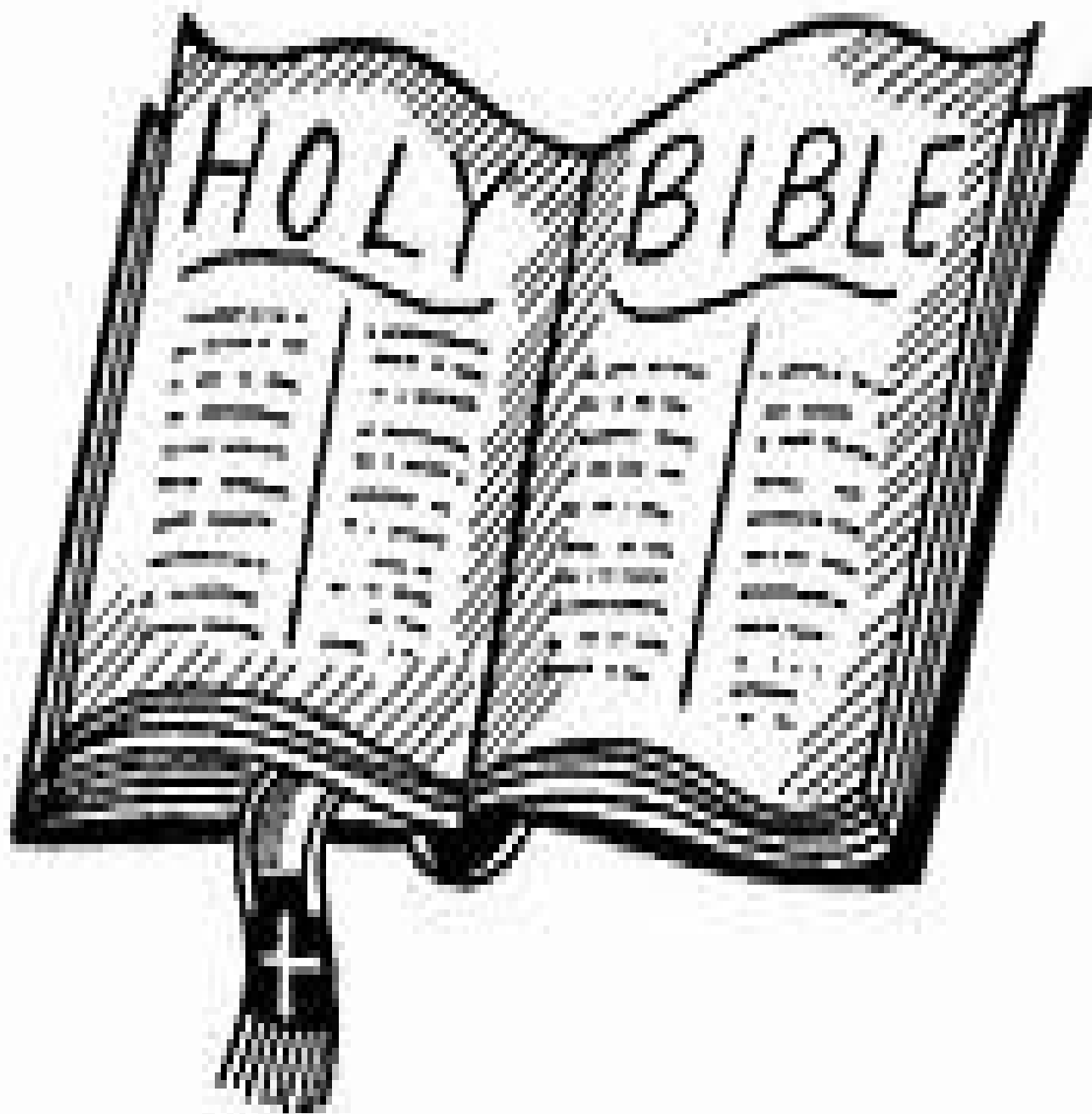


The Biblical Definitions of Sin



Introuction

These definitions are used in a couple other pamphlets the reason I decided to make a booklet for the definitions of sin is that hopefully the title will catch the curious eye of the reader with the hopeful outcome of gained knowledge by the reader. There are 6 New Testament definitions of sin (that I am aware of), that is to say the scripture states such and such “is sin”. I will do my best to explain each of these, but I feel that it is of the upmost important that the reader keep in mind that sin is sin and no sin is greater than any other sin. My goal is to briefly discuss the Biblical definitions of them so that we may gain a better understanding of what sin actually is.

Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; (John 16:7-9)

The Greek word for “believe” is “pisteuo” (pist-yoo’-o) it means not to just believe, but also be persuaded of, to place confidence in, to trust, and signifies reliance upon, not mere credence. It is often translated “commit onto”, “commit ones trust”, “be committed unto”.

To say that we believe in Jesus does not mean that we just believe that He is real and that He is the Son of God. What it actually means is that we **know** He is real and **know** that He is the only begotten Son of God, to the point of placing our confidence in Him , relying on the fact the His Word and Life is absolute truth. Another part of believing in Jesus is that we commit our lives and everything we have, do, or say onto Christ.

Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God. Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong for anyone to make another stumble by what he eats. It is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that causes your brother to stumble. The

faith that you have, keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who has no reason to pass judgment on himself for what he approves. But whoever has doubts is condemned if he eats, because the eating is not from faith. For whatever does not proceed from faith is sin. (Romans 14:20-23)

This scripture is talking about partaking food and drink that was either prepared by a pagan or at a non-christian feast or both. God provides all food it's ok to eat. But the last sentence is the most important, it tells us that everything we have, or will receive must proceed from faith. In other words we must recognize that it comes from God Himself, whether it be food, drink, cloths, shelter, jobs, family, church you attend, and so on, it is mandatory that we recognize that every good thing in our lives comes from God to do otherwise is sin.

My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory.But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. (James 2:1, 9)

As we see above to hold one person in a higher esteem than another is sin. No matter the circumstance whether it be financial status, social status, political views, race, religion, or even whether we like a person or not, we can never think of someone as more important as someone else. This is such a common thing in our day that people hold others in a higher esteem simply because of a commonality of a sports team, and not much is thought of it. It's one thing to joke around about such things, but to actually think an individual is more important than someone else for any reason is "showing partiality".

So whoever knows to do the right thing and fails to do it, for him it is sin. (James 4:17)

The Greek word used here "right" is "kalos" (kal-os), it means that which is ethnically good, right, noble, or honorable.

The key to understanding this definition of sin is the phrase "to him it is sin". Sometimes the Holy Spirit will inspire us to do things that at other times we may not give it a second thought. A good example I like to give to explain "kalos" is, if my brother and I were walking down the street noticing a piece of trash and the Holy Spirit moves me by

bringing it to my attention that the right thing to do is to pick it up and throw it into a trash can, my brother may not think anything of it, if we continue to ignore the piece of trash and keep walking, then I've sinned simply because I knew that picking it up was the right thing to do. But my brother on the other hand not thinking anything about it did not sin in this situation. Remember the key to this definition is the phrase "to him it is sin".

Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness, sin is lawlessness.
(1 John 3:4)

The Greek word for lawlessness is "anomia" (an-om-ee'-ah), it refers not to the one living without the Law, but one who acts contrary to the Law.

As we can see from this definition the word lawlessness is not directed towards someone who does not know what is expected of them biblically, it is directed to us who knows what the Bible expects of us and live contrary to it anyway. In order to practice lawlessness you must somewhat know the law.

All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death. **(1 John 5:17)**

The Greek word for wrongdoing is "adikia" (ad-ee-kee'ah), it denotes unrighteousness, a condition of not being right with God, according to the standard of His holiness and righteousness, or with man, according to the standard of what man knows to be right by his conscience.

Wrongdoing is not just doing wrong according to God's standards but also what we know is wrong. We begin to understand what is right or wrong at a fairly early age. When we conscientiously and knowingly do wrong we sin, it doesn't matter if our wrong doing is actually listed in the Bible or not. Right is right and wrong is wrong, and we have no excuses because we know better. If I walk past a seven year old kid and push him down into a mud puddle, no matter where I'm at in the world that is wrong. To do wrong is to sin.