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Sin—My Fatal Flaw

SIN, DEATH, AND THE DEVIL

Shakespeare said that a rose by any other name is still a rose. We could also say that sin by any other name is still sin. Many people don't like the word sin. They would rather use words that don't make them feel so guilty. In the first section of the chart, write other words for sin. Circle the words that are euphemisms—less offensive words that blunt or soften the word's unpleasantness.

Whatever word we may use for it, sin is still sin—breaking God's Law (1 John 3:4). And breaking one law makes us *guilty of breaking all of it* (James 2:10). Let's analyze sin a little deeper.

I. Original Sin. Read Psalm 51:5 and Genesis 8:21b. Think about a tiny baby. Is it sinful? Explain your answer.

Sin is part of our natural condition. This is not an excuse; it is a reality. It has been passed from all parents to all children since our first parents, Adam and Eve, fell into sin: "Sin entered the world through one man" (Romans 5:12a). If we are born in sin, our one hope is to be born again.

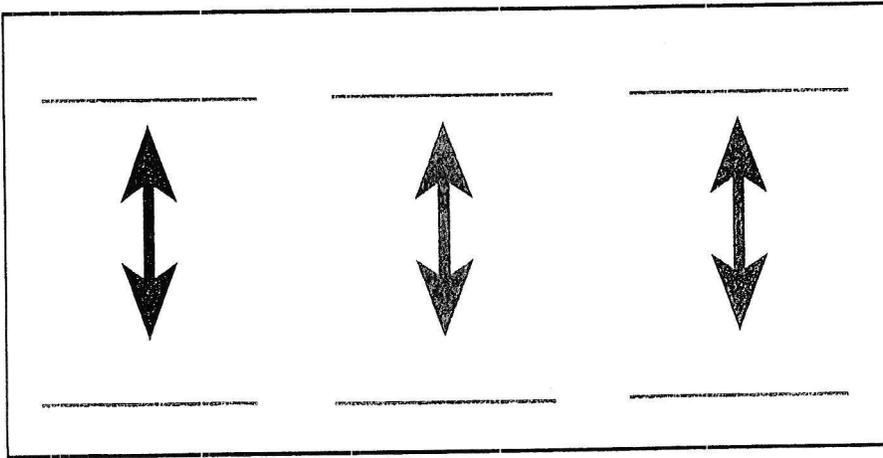
II. Actual Sin. If original sin is the "disease" or condition we are born with, then actual sins are the "symptoms" or demonstrations of the disease. If we have original sin "by nature," then we have actual sin "by will." (Look at the words in quotations in this paragraph. Rewrite them on the chart in the appropriate sections.)

III. Thought, Word, and Deed. These are three types of actual sins. In the appropriate places on the chart, list ways that we sin in what we think and say and do.

IV. Commission and Omission. Actual sins may be sins of commission (doing what is wrong) or sins of omission (not doing what is right). Write the definitions of these words, written in parentheses, in the appropriate places on the chart.

James 4:17 says, "Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins." What a sad condition in which we find ourselves! We are born rebelling against God; we show it in our thoughts, speech, and actions; and now we learn that we can sin even when we do nothing!

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|---------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| SIN | | |
| ORIGINAL SIN | | ACTUAL SIN |
| THOUGHT | WORD | DEED |
| COMMISSION | | OMISSION |



2. _____

Note that this lesson is divided into two main sections. Write the key words of the titles for these sections on the lines in the colored box. Do you see how the words connected by arrows relate to each other? Use each new pair of words in a sentence that shows this relationship.

1. _____

3. _____

**THROUGH CHRIST THE VICTORY IS OURS!
 LIVE FOR THE LORD!**



TO REVIEW AND REMEMBER

Ephesians 6:10: Be strong in the Lord and His mighty power.
 1 Corinthians 15:57: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.