

The Problem Of Sin

How Does the Bible Describe You?

(Romans 3:10)

(Romans 3:23)

(Colossians 1:21)

(Romans 6:16)

(Luke 15:24)

How Does the Bible Describe God?

(Psalms 119:137)

(Matthew 5:45)

(Luke 15:20)

(Romans 6:17-18)

(Romans 6:23)

Your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden His face from you so that He will not hear.

-Isaiah 59:2

How Does God's Word Describe You?

UNRIGHTEOUS

There is no one righteous, not even one.
(Romans 3:10)

SINFUL

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.
(Romans 3:23)

HATEFUL

Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.
(Colossians 1:21)

SLAVES OF SIN

Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey – whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?
(Romans 6:16)

SPIRITUALLY DEAD

For this son of mine was dead and is alive again, he was lost and is found.
(Luke 15:24)

How Does God's Word Describe God?

RIGHTEOUS

Righteous are you, O Lord, and your laws are right.
(Psalms 119:137)

SINLESS

Be perfect, therefore as your heavenly father is perfect.
(Matthew 5:45)

LOVING

But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.
(Luke 15:20)

SOURCE OF FREEDOM

But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.
(Romans 6:17-18)

SOURCE OF LIFE

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

When we have done something wrong, none of us want to admit that we are guilty. There are three ways that most people try to escape their guilt when they have seen themselves as described in God's Word.

We blame someone or something else for our bad attitudes, bad actions, and our sins.

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| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart.

(Luke 6:45)

We try to outweigh our bad attitudes, bad actions, and our sins by thinking of all the good things we have done.

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All of us have become like one who is unclean and all of our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind, our sins sweep us away.

(Isaiah 64:6)

We try to become acceptable to God by comparing ourselves to someone who is a “worse sinner” than we are.

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| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
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Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?

(Matthew 7:1-3)

We saw that there are three ways we try to excuse our bad attitudes and our bad actions, which are both sins. We try to blame someone or something else; we try to outweigh the evil things that we have done with our good actions; we try to become acceptable to God by comparing ourselves to someone that we consider to be a “worse sinner” than we are. When we are in this process of making excuses and comparisons, we demonstrate that we do not understand what God expects of us.

GOD WILL ACCEPT NOTHING LESS THAN A PERFECT LIFE.

Be perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect.

(Matthew 5:48)

WE HAVE LIVED A LESS THAN PERFECT LIFE.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

(Romans 3:23)



GOOD NEWS: BEFORE THE CURE MUST COME THE DIAGNOSIS!

When Jesus was criticized for associating with known “sinners”, He answered His critics by saying, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

(Luke 5:31-32)