

04. Sin Comes From Unbelief

'Sin,' what is it?

Every religion in the world uses the word 'sin'. But, I think, it is true to say that in the minds of many human beings, who are religious, there is no understanding of what it is. Even those who read the Bible, if you ask them, 'What is sin, really,' they don't understand. Just as when we understand the sickness, we can find the cure, so do we when we understand sin.

The Bible speaks about how the first man and woman, whom God created, sinned. Essentially, they sinned because they did not believe that God was a good God, who loved them, who gave commands for their good. God had placed them in a garden where He told them they could eat anything; they could do anything except one thing - they were not to eat of a particular tree. There God wanted to test their obedience. And not only to test their obedience but also to give them an opportunity to choose what was right; to say no to what was wrong, and thereby develop character. We read in Genesis 3 how that Satan came into that garden and tempted Adam and Eve to do what God told them not to. He tempted them by telling them that they could get certain advantages if they ate of that tree. They were told they would be like God - 'you will develop your personality.'

That is how Satan always comes. When Satan tempts people to do something wrong, he never tells them about the consequences. When Satan tempts a person to take his first alcoholic drink, he does not tell him how he will finally become enslaved to alcoholic drinks; become a drunkard, waste his money, destroy his family, bring poverty into his

04. 罪来自不相信

“罪”，它到底是什么？

世上的每个宗教都用“罪”这个词。但我想，很多有宗教的人，并不明白“罪”的真正意思。甚至很多读《圣经》的人，如果你问他们“到底罪是什么”，他们都不知道。就像只有当我们明白一种疾病，才能够找到治愈的方法，同样的也会发生于当我们明白了什么是“罪”。

《圣经》谈到神造的第一个男人和女人，犯了罪。本质上来说，他们的罪，是因为他们不相信神是良善的，是爱他们的，给他们的指示是为了他们好。神把他们放在伊甸园，告诉他们可以吃一切果子，除了那特定的一棵树。神想要试验他们的顺服。不止是试验他们是否顺服，也是给他们机会来做出对的选择；对错的说“不”，从而发展他们的品格。我们在创世纪第3章，看到撒但如何进入伊甸园，诱惑亚当和夏娃去做神嘱咐不要做的事。他诱惑他们，告诉他们从吃那棵树上的果子可以得到的好处。告诉他们，他们会变得像神——“你可以发展自己的个性”。

这是撒但惯用的伎俩。撒但诱惑人去做错事的时候，从来不告诉他们后果。当撒但诱惑人去喝第一杯酒的时候，他不告诉那人将会被酒精所奴役；变成一个酒鬼，浪费钱财，毁坏家庭，使他的家贫穷，他的妻子和孩子会遭受痛苦。他不和他们说这些。他只是说：“你会觉得非常爽。”当他诱惑一些年轻人吸毒的时候，他不告诉他们，最后他们会毁坏自己的理智，毁

home, and how his wife and children will suffer. He doesn't tell him all that. He just says, 'You will get a kick out of it.' When he tempts some young person to take drugs, he doesn't tell that person how finally he will destroy his mind, destroy his life. He will probably have a premature death, he will lose all his money, he will probably become a thief finally because he would want more and more money with his insatiable craving for drugs. The devil won't tell him all that. He will just tell him how he is going to enjoy himself if he takes a little of these forbidden drugs and that he will get a kick out of it.

It was exactly like that when Satan came to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. There we have an example of how he comes to all human beings today, telling them what they can gain. When he tells a man to steal, he doesn't tell him about all the potential dangers; about how he could be locked up in jail, he could have children grow up following his example and be thieves, etc. No, he just tells of that immediate prospect of gaining some money. In the same way with adultery, Satan doesn't tell people about the consequences, but only the immediate pleasure. Remember this thing: whenever you are tempted, temptation always offers a certain forbidden pleasure. But if you are sensible, you will think of the consequences. A sensible man always thinks about the future, not just about the immediate present. He thinks what is going to be the result of my action? And if you think about the results of your action, there are many things you will not do.

Animals don't normally think about the results of their actions, though some animals do. There are many animals which are sensible, more sensible than human beings. But very often animals don't know the consequences of their actions, but we do. We have seen around us so many examples of

坏生活。他可能会提早死亡，失掉所有的钱，可能变成一个贼，因为他需要更多更多的钱来满足他的毒瘾。魔鬼不会告诉他这些。他只会告诉这个人，好好享受一下，通过禁药来爽一下。

撒但来到伊甸园里的亚当和夏娃时候，就是这样的。从这我们看到一个例子，撒但在今天是如何来诱惑所有人的，就是只告诉他们可以获得什么。当他告诉一个人去偷，他不告诉他潜在的危險——可能会被关进监狱，或者他的孩子也会变成贼，等等。撒但就只告诉人马上效果，就是“能得到钱”。奸淫也是同样，撒但只告诉人当时你能获得的快感。请记住一件事：只要当你被诱惑的时候，诱惑总会提供一种禁忌的快感。但如果你足够理智，就会去想后果。一个理智的人，总会去想未来，而不止是当下的快感。他会想，我的行为会带来怎样的后果？如果你冷静思考自己行为的后果，那么很多事情，你都不会做了。

动物一般不会思考它们行为的后果，虽然有些动物也会——有很多动物比人还懂事。但通常，动物是不明白自己行为的后果的，可人类是明白的。我们周围就有很多的例子，有些人由于错误的行动，而毁掉了自己。就在那一天，亚当和夏娃做出了至关重要的一个决定，结果造成了对他们自己，和他们所有后代的影

people who have destroyed themselves by wrong actions. Adam and Eve took a very important decision that day that produced lifelong consequences, not only for themselves, but for their children and grandchildren and all their descendants. From that we should learn one thing, that all the decisions we take in life produce consequences; we have to reap what we sow. That is what the Bible says. Many a times, it is not only we who will have to suffer, our children also will have to reap what we sow. The same works the other way too. If you sow what is good, your children are going to reap the good fruit of what you sow.

In Adam's case, he and his wife were sent out of God's presence from that garden for the rest of their lives. So don't think that the little choices that you make in your life are unimportant, and that you will never reap a harvest in your future of what you are sowing today. It is not true. I mean, the devil will blind you and make you think that such things will not happen. But they will. We considered in an earlier study as to why does God want us to be tempted? - So that our character may develop. He doesn't want robots. He doesn't want inanimate beings that just go automatically according to certain laws of nature. He wants us to be moral beings that choose to do what is good. That is the only way we can be children of God. There is no virtue in choosing what is good unless there is an alternative choice which is also attractive.

See, when Adam and Eve were put into that garden, if God had made that forbidden tree ugly, repulsive, full of thorns and thistles, and in every way hideous, would Adam and Eve ever have been tempted to go near it? But we read in the Bible that the tree was very attractive. It made Adam and Eve's mouths water; they longed to eat of it. Temptation has to be

响。从这我们可以学到一件事，就是我们所有的任何决定，在人生里都有后果；我们会收获自己所种下的。这就是《圣经》所说的。很多时候，不止是我们遭受不幸，我们的孩子也会收获我们所种下的。反过来，如果你种下好种子，你的孩子也会收获好的果子。

对于亚当来说，他和他的妻子，整个余生都离开了有神同在的伊甸园。所以，别以为你人生里小小的选择不重要，别以为你不会收获今天所种下的。那是假的。我是说，魔鬼会蒙蔽你的眼睛，让你以为什么都不会发生。但是它们会发生的。我们想一下，前面学过的，为什么神让我们面对诱惑？是为了我们的品质可以被锻炼。祂不想要机器人。祂不想要了无生机的东西，就只是遵守着自然律运行。祂想要我们成为“道德的生命体”，可以去选择做对的事情。这是唯一的能让我们成为神的孩子的方法。如果没有其它诱人却错误的选项，那么选择“好”就没有任何美德在里面了。

你看，当亚当和夏娃在伊甸园时，如果那棵禁忌的树非常丑、令人厌恶，又布满荆棘，怎么看都极其丑陋恐怖，那么亚当和夏娃可能被诱感到跟前去吗？我们看到《圣经》说，这棵树非常的诱人。它让亚当夏娃流口水，让他们非常想尝一尝。诱惑必须要迷人，才能成为诱惑。要不然，就不是诱惑了。这世上有些东西你若觉得它不吸引人，就不会被它诱惑。品德是你

attractive for it to be a temptation. Otherwise, it is not temptation. If you find something in the world unattractive, you will never be tempted by it. Character is developed through temptation that is attractive and yet which you know is wrong and you are resisting and saying no to it. That is what it is to be a moral being.

That is why God has allowed many things in the world to be attractive. Some of those things are forbidden, for example, an attractive woman who is not your wife. You are not to lust after her, you are not to admire her beauty. It will destroy you. It will destroy your marriage relationship. Money is attractive, but if you place money above God and pursue after money to the exclusion of God - like many people do - your life will be destroyed. So everything we do, every decision we take is like sowing a seed from that comes the harvest.

Now let us look at the sin of Adam and Eve. God loved them. He gave them their bodies, gave them health, gave them life, gave them a garden, and gave them each other. They should have thought, 'Well, God is so good. He will give everything good for us. If he forbids us from partaking something, it must be with a very good reason.' If they had that faith, they would not have gone astray. But they lost faith in God. They did not believe that God was good when Satan told them that God did not want them to be like Him: 'There is some reason why He did not allow you to eat from this tree; He doesn't want you to develop.' They believed that lie, and it is when people believe the lie of Satan that they fall into sin.

Sin begins with unbelief in the perfect love of God. That leads to disobedience. That is why, in the Bible, faith in God and obedience to his commandments are linked always close together.

通过面对你知道是错的、却非常迷人的诱惑，抵抗它不屈从，而发展出来的。只有这样，才能成为一个“道德的生命体”。

这就是为什么神允许这个世上的很多东西如此迷人。这其中有些东西是禁忌的，比如，一个迷人却并非你妻子的女人。你不该对她有任何渴望，也不可以去仰慕她的美丽。这会毁了你。毁了你的婚姻。金钱是迷人的，但如果你追求金钱胜过神——很多人都是这样的——你的人生就毁了。所以，我们做的每件事，做出的每个决定，都像种下一粒种子，以后会收获它的结果。

现在让我们来看一看亚当和夏娃所犯的罪。神爱他们。祂给了他们身体、健康，给了他们生活，给他们伊甸园（工作和家园），给了他们彼此。他们理应想，“神真是太好了。祂给我们一切有益处的东西。那么，如果祂禁止我们参与某些东西，一定会有祂的原因。”他们若有这样的信心，就不会进入了歧途。可惜他们失掉了对神的信心。当撒但告诉他们“祂不要你们吃这棵树的果子是有原因的，因为祂不想让你们开化，变得和祂一样”，此时他们不再相信神是良善的。因此他们相信了这个谎话，就在人们相信撒但的谎言时，便已经跌进了罪里。

“罪”是从怀疑神的完美的爱开始的，它导致不顺了服。这就是为什么，在《圣经》里，对神的信心和对神的顺服总是紧密的连在一起。不相信和不顺服神也总是在一起的。“不顺服”是“不相信”所结的果子。比

And unbelief and disobedience to God's commandments also go together. Disobedience is the fruit of unbelief, just like obedience is the fruit of faith. If I believe, for example, that everything that God has forbidden will harm me, I will be very happy to avoid all of them. Why? Because I believe that God is a good God. And whatever God tells me to do, if I believe that it is really for my good, I would obey. So, when I don't have faith in God's love, I sin. That is unbelief which leads to sin.

Consider our children, for example, when we tell them to go to school. When they are small, say, 4 or 5 years old, they are not eager to go to school; we have to force them. And sometimes they go weeping to school, perhaps thinking that daddy and mommy are so hard; they are forcing me to go to school; they don't allow me to sit at home and play. But we know what is good for them. They don't know what is good for them. One day, when they grow up, they will realise that what daddy and mommy forced them to do was good for them. In the same way, if we can believe in God, we will realise that everything He tells us is for our good and then we will do it. So the first step to God is faith, and then comes obedience. That is what we see in the New Testament. In The New Testament, salvation comes by faith. You must believe in God, believe that He is good, that He is kind, that He is interested in you. Sin is unbelief. You don't believe that God is good, and therefore you do the things which He tells you not to do; the things He tells you to avoid through the conscience within you. You don't obey in the things which He tells you to obey. Why? - Because you don't believe.

We can also say that 'sin' is choosing created things; ourselves, and our ways above God, instead of God's way; seeking to please ourselves instead of pleasing God. That is what Adam and Eve did.

方说，我若相信神所禁止的事物是会伤害我的，那么我一定非常高兴地去避开它们。为什么呢？因为我相信神是至善的神。无论神告诉我做什么，如果我相信这是为了我好，那我就会顺服。所以，当我对神的爱没信心的时候，就犯罪了。这就是“不相信”导致“犯罪”。

设想下，当我们告诉孩子去上学。当他们还小的时候，四五岁，是不太想上学的，那时我们会强迫他们去。有时候他们甚至会哭着去学校，也许他们会觉得爸爸妈妈太严厉了——他们逼着我去学校，不让我坐在家里玩。可是，我们知道什么是对他们有益处的。他们不知道什么对自己有益处。直到有一天，他们长大了，就会意识到爸爸妈妈的强迫是为了他们好。同样的，如果我们相信神，就会明白祂告诉我们要去做的事是对我们有好处的，尔后我们就会愿意去做。因此，归向神的第一步是“信”，然后才是顺服。这是我们在《新约》里看到的。《新约》说，救赎来自于信。你必须相信神，相信祂是好的，祂是善的，祂在乎你。罪是由于不相信。你因为不相信神是出于好的目的，所以才会去做祂告诉你别做的事，那些祂放了道德心在你里面告诉你别去做的事。而你违背祂要你做的，是为什么？因为你压根就不相信。

另外，我们也可以说，“罪”是“选择被造物”，让我们这些被造物高过神，选择我们自己的方式而非神的方式，选择讨自己喜欢而非讨神喜欢。这就是亚当和夏娃那时候做的。这棵树可以满足他们的某种渴求，虽

There was this tree that would satisfy their longing and even though God had told them not to take part in it, they did it. Why do people commit adultery? It is because they want their own way, they want to please themselves. They don't believe in what God says about the harm that will do to them.

Once our minds are enlightened to see this truth, that God is a good God, everything He forbids us from taking part of is for our good, everything He tells us to do is for our good, we will submit to God, we will submit to Jesus Christ. We will open our hearts to the teaching of Christ in the Scriptures, and say, 'Lord, I want to obey your word.' I want to encourage you to turn to the Bible and read it. When you pray, say, 'Lord Jesus, help me to give up everything you tell me to give up and to do everything you tell me to do. I believe you are a good God.'

然神交代他们不要去吃，可他们还是吃了。为什么人会犯奸淫？因为他们要按自己的方式去行，要取悦自己。他们不相信神说的，那些东西会伤害他们。

一旦我们的头脑被这些真理唤醒，看到神是良善的神，一切祂禁止我们做的是为了我们好，一切祂要我们去做的也是为了我们好，这样，我们会服从于神，服从于耶稣基督。我们会敞开心扉，聆听基督通过《圣经》的教导，说：“主啊，我愿意顺服你的话语。”我想鼓励你们去读《圣经》。当你祈祷的时候，说：“主耶稣，请帮助我放弃一切你要我放弃的，去做一切你要我做的。我相信你是至善的神。”