

The Hidden Problems of Sin
Psalm 40:11-13
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to discuss some of the aspects of sin that is often hidden away in parts of our lives.

Introduction

I. Sin is addictive

A. Sinful addictions

1. Consider the word addiction - a strong inclination to do, use, or indulge in something repeatedly (Merriam-webster).
2. The word addiction is sometimes used playfully, however when discussing sin, addiction is never good.

B. Addiction can become tradition

1. **Addiction that you are unwilling to forfeit can be passed down, moving from sinful addiction to sinful tradition.**
2. Such addictions turned to traditions only separates man from God (**1 Pt 1:18b**)

II. Sin is often selfish

A. Sin is about desires.

1. Our desires, when sinful are often selfish.
2. One commits sin because they bring some type of satisfaction.
 - i. Sure we can commit sins that will benefit others, but sin is often for our own pleasure.
 - ii. Sin when described in **1 Jn 2:16** has the word lust attached to it, all three times, lust is a way of enticing someone. Lust also is many times attached to selfishness.

B. Selfish sins are the most difficult.

1. Selfish sins affect us directly (**James 1:14**).
2. They bring us pleasure therefore our selfish sins are often the last ones to be given up and the last ones we address through repentance.

III. Sin Spreads

A. Sin spreads like a sickness

1. Sin may begin by affecting only one part of your life, but as the sin continues it spreads to other parts of your life.
2. If sin is not addressed it can spread to your relationships, affecting your family and friends.

B. Sin like sickness can be lethal when untreated.

1. Sickness untreated can cause tremendous harm, even death.
2. Sin is no different, obedience, and repentance is the cure, but is only applied by the will of the person in the sin.

IV. Lessons for us today.

A. Sin has many hidden burdens

1. Sin changes your mindset
2. Sin changes how you treat others
3. Sin changes your priorities
4. Sin changes your heart
5. Sin changes YOU
 - a. Sin causes you to grow more corrupt by the day (**Eph 4:22**)

B. Sin will always have one solution

1. Sin will always separate man from God, obedience will always bring man to God.
2. Pride, arrogance, and ignorance will keep you in sin and away from God.

Application & Conclusion:

1. As you consider sin, you have to take a hard look at yourself (**2 Cor 13:5a**)
2. Are you “in the faith” or simply living in according to your standard of right and wrong?
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9