

## How God Sees Sin

(Psalm 5:4)

We currently live in a society where, for so many people, they don't take sin seriously. They actually minimize and trivialize it. We see this with the gay marriage and abortion movements. We see this on the beer commercials.

How does God feel about sin? When God looks at sinful behavior what does He see? How does He feel? Let's answer this question as we address a hot topic that many refuse to talk about – sin!

### I. Sin is real.

- A. Many in our society refuse to acknowledge the reality of sin.
  - 1. Many don't believe in absolute truth and an objective morality.
  - 2. Many try to justify murder in certain situations (example: abortion).
  - 3. Many preachers refuse to talk about sin in their sermons (example: Joel Osteen).
- B. Jesus preached about the reality of sin!
  - 1. Sin is lawlessness (1 John 3:4).
  - 2. Jesus told people about it and how they needed to stay away from it (Matthew 5:29-30; 18:15; John 8:11, 24, 34; 16:8; 19:11).

### II. Sin is bad!

- A. The holy God cannot tolerate and condone sin (Psalm 5:4).
- B. Sin damages.
  - 1. It damages our personal lives.
  - 2. It damages our **relationship with God**.
    - a. Sin **cuts** us **off** from God (Isaiah 59:1-2a).
    - b. Sin hinders our **prayers** (Isaiah 59:2b; Psalm 34:15-17).
  - 3. It brings about God's **judgment**.
    - a. It did in Noah's time (Genesis 6:5).
    - b. It did in Lot's time (Jude 7).
    - c. It will on Judgment Day (2 Thessalonians 1:6-9; Revelation 21:8).

### III. Sin hurts God

- A. This is emphasized repeatedly in the Bible.
  - 1. It is emphasized in the story of Noah (Genesis 6:6).
  - 2. It is at the core of Hosea's story (Hosea 1:2).
  - 3. It is one of the main lessons to be learned from the parable of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32). The father in the story represents God.
  - 4. We grieve the Holy Spirit when we reject the word He has revealed (Ephesians 4:30).
  - 5. Jesus lamented the fact that many of the Jews in Jerusalem rejected Him (Matthew 23:37).
- B. This is something we need to think about all the time!
  - 1. It will help us reciprocate God's love back to Him.
  - 2. It will help us avoid sin and its terrible consequences.

**Conclusion:** The seriousness of sin can be seen fully by looking at the cross (Isaiah 53:5).