

## New Testament Facts About Sin

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by Bill Crews

1. When Jesus Christ died on the cross as a sacrifice for the sins of men, He died for all men and for the sins of all men. John 3:16; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; Hebrews 2:9; 1 John 2:1-2; Isaiah 53:4-6
2. The blood of Jesus Christ has the power to cleanse all the sins of all men (pity that it will not). Matthew 26:28; Hebrews 7:25; 9:12, 22, 26; 10:12, 14; 1 John 1:7
3. Sin is transgression of divine law, or failure to do what is right, or acting contrary to our own conscience. 1 John 3:4 (from the beginning men have been under law to God — Romans 4:15; 5:13); 1 John 5:17; James 4:17; Romans 14:23
4. Every accountable person commits sin (usually many sins), is separated from God, is dead spiritually, and must have God's forgiveness. 1 Kings 8:46; Ecclesiastes 7:20; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6
5. Even after one becomes a Christian he will not live a sinless life, 1 John 1: 8, 10. But there is a vast difference between *deliberately* living in sin and *deliberately* turning from sin and striving to live a righteous life that is pleasing to God. 1 John 3:6-10 deals with this.
6. There is no specific temptation to sin that we cannot resist, and there is no specific sin so powerful that we must commit it, 1 Corinthians 10:13. We are responsible for the sins that we commit and are held accountable for them, even when we are deceived, or when we sin in ignorance, Genesis 3:13; 1 Timothy 2:14; Acts 3:17; 1 Corinthians 2:8; 1 Timothy 1:13-16.
7. Only when men will **not** meet God's conditions for pardon will their sins **not** be pardoned, and one condition required of both alien sinners and Christians who sin is genuine repentance (which will be preceded by godly sorrow and followed by a change of life). Matthew 12:22-37; 1 John 5:16-17; Matthew 23:37; Romans 2:5-11; John 9:40-41; Matthew 3:7-8; 2 Corinthians 7:8-10; Acts 26:20.
8. Anyone who wants to do God's will can; anyone who wants to repent of his sins and change his life can. However, it is possible for one to sear his conscience so that it no longer bothers him when he does sin (1 Timothy 4:1-2), and it is possible for one to go so deep into sin and so far from God that he will not want to repent and others cannot bring him to repentance (Hebrews 6:4-6).
9. On the day of Pentecost those who had rejected and murdered God's Son were forgiven, Acts 2:23, 37-41. At Corinth some who had been fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, homosexuals sodomites, thieves, covetous, revilers, drunkards and extortioners were forgiven, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11. God is merciful, gracious and kind, and He is ready to forgive.
10. Until sinners are *honestly* ready to face and acknowledge their sins, are *genuinely* ashamed of and sorry for them, and in penitence ready to amend their lives, there is neither help nor hope for them. But if they are, the good news of the gospel is for them.

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