

# BIBLE CHALLENGE 2019

Week 19: May 5-11

## *What About My Personal Sins?*

Read: Genesis 3:12; Exodus 5:2; 20:1-17; Deuteronomy 6:13-15; 12:32; 18:9-14; 31:27; 32:18; Judges 3:7; 1 Samuel 15:23; Nehemiah 9:26; Psalm 9:17; 10:4; 36:1; 50:17; 53:1-3; 55:9-11; 73:6-9; Proverbs 6:16-19; 8:36; 14:9; Ecclesiastes 7:29; Isaiah 29:20; Jeremiah 4:22; 6:13; 7:9; 22:17; 25:4; Ezekiel 16:49; 22:12; 33:31; Hosea 4:2; 10:1; Matthew 23:33; 25:44; John 5:42; 7:7; 8:24,44; Romans 1:18-32; 3:10-20; 12:9-21; 13:13; 14:23; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Galatians 6:19-21; Ephesians 5:3-18; Philippians 2:21; Colossians 3:5-10; 1 Timothy 6:3-10; 2 Timothy 3:1-9; Titus 3:3; James 1:14-15; 2:10; 3:8-9,14-16; 4:6; 1 Peter 3:10-12; 4:3,17; 2 Peter 2:10-22; 1 John 3:4-10,14-15,17; 4:7-8; Revelation 21:8,27; 22:15. Read Leviticus 18 and Deuteronomy 5 in full.

*"I have been trying to make the reader believe that we actually are, at present, creatures whose character must be, in some respects, a horror to God, as it is, when we really see it, a horror to ourselves. This I believe to be a fact: and I notice that the holier a man is, the more fully he is aware of that fact."*

C.S. Lewis — *The Problem of Pain*

*"What is sin? Sin is any want of conformity unto or transgression of the Law of God."*

Westminster Shorter Catechism, Question and Answer #14

*"Will God suffer such disobedience and rebellion to go unpunished? By no means; but is terribly displeased with our original as well as actual sins; and will punish them in His just judgment temporally and eternally, as He has declared, 'Cursed is everyone that does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the Law, and do them.'"*

Heidelberg Catechism, Question and Answer #10

God hates sin. He does not soft-pedal it; he does not turn a blind-eye toward it; and he never excuses it. Sin will be punished in its fullness. Such is not because God is a man, angry, vengeful God; God is love. But God is also just and justice demands that sin committed against his divine majesty be punished to the fullest extent (see Heidelberg Catechism, Question and Answer 11). And thus, those who pursue sin are under his wrath; only those for whom Christ has substituted himself are forgiven and declared righteous according to the Law.

We know the nature of sin and the work of Christ, which is the basis for the Gospel. We know that all deserve Hell but that God has elected to redeem some while permitting the rest to face their righteous punishment for sin. We also know that this election took place according to the council of God's own will and is not based on anything in us.

So, we usually have a pretty good idea of how this sin works itself out in the life of the reprobate — those whom God is permitting to suffer Hell for their sins. But, what of the life of the Christian? What of the believer who commits sins? How are we to understand God's attitude toward our sin? And, the answer is much the same as before, God hates it and is angry with us for pursuing sin. Remember, God's love does not trump his justice and justice in the case of the sins of true believers, was carried out upon the cross.

Our focus, then, this week, deals with the nature of sin when it is committed, tolerated, or pursued in the life of a Christian — the nature of it, the ugliness of it, and how we are to repent of it and seek to put it to death. Indeed, it is true that sin will afflict us during all of our years in this fallen world, but that does not mean we should like it or accept it in our lives.

The Puritan, Thomas Watson once wrote: "Sin is a coal; it not only blacks, but burns. Sin creates all of our troubles; it puts gravel into our bread, wormwood in our cup. Sin rots the name, consumes the estate, buries relations...Who puts rosewater in a

kennel? What a pity it is that so sweet an affection as love should be poured upon so filthy a thing as sin." In other words, we should hate our sin, be disgusted by our own sin, and look upon our own sin as God looks upon it (which is by the way, what the word "confess" means). One of the marks of a Christian is that he or she actively seeks to put those things that please God to death.

### ***When do we start sinning?***

To most of us, this is probably a pretty simple question. We begin sinning from conception, continue sinning in the womb, during and after birth, while we grow into adulthood, and to the day we die. There is never a breath that we breathe on this earth nor a movement that we make (even in the womb) that is untainted by sin.

It is an important question to ask because some church groups teach an idea of an "age of accountability." This idea is based on the Jewish practice of presenting sons and daughters for their Bar or Bath Mizvah when they turn 13. It was believed in Rabbinic tradition that children were not responsible for their sins until this age. That does not mean that the children are not sinful, they are just not seen by the community as being able to understand their sins and thus be responsible for them. Yet, a well-trained child of even a year understands the idea of minding their parents or of the importance of loving God. No, sin (and our responsibility for it begins at conception.

### ***Commission and Omission***

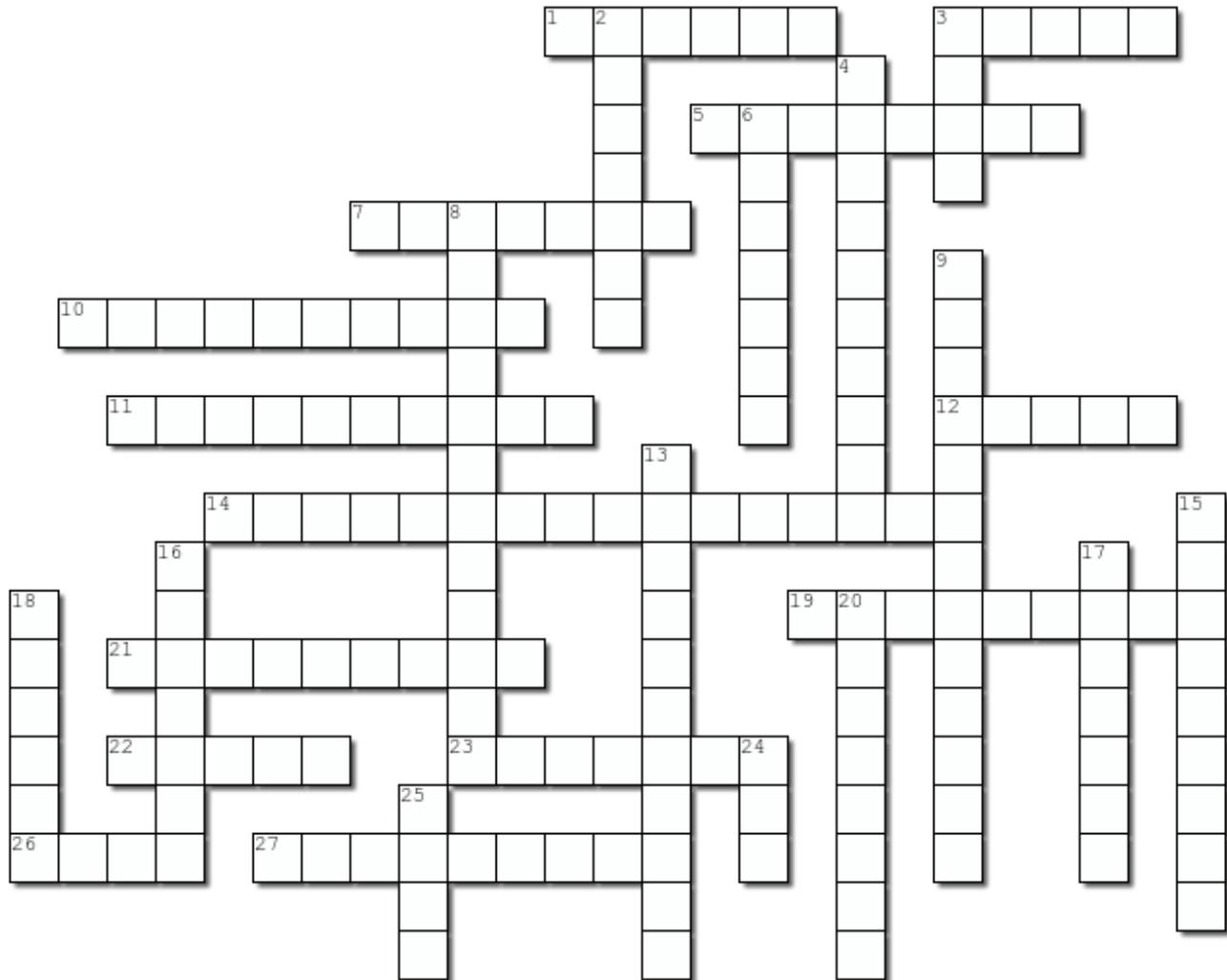
When we talk about sins we usually talk about sins we actively or willfully commit (sins of commission). There are also sins of omission. These are times when we should have acted righteously but did not act at all. In the context of speaking of our wills, we should also note that the motives we have for acting or not acting are often not honoring to God as well.

The bottom line is that we are unable to anything righteously unless God is doing it in us, through us, and in faith. We are spiritually bankrupt if left to our own means...desperate for a savior.

### ***Is there any Good News that Could Be Reported?***

Yes, there is! The good news is that the problem of sin is universal and it is part of the experience of all mankind. We all have the same problem: sin. That means that the same solution addresses the problem: the Gospel of Jesus Christ. No matter where you go or who you meet in this world of ours, near or far, the Gospel is relevant. No matter the age or era you live in and no matter the level of education or the kind of experiences a person has had, the answer is still the same because the problem is the same. And so, we have no excuse when it comes to meeting people who do not have faith in Jesus Christ — we know the remedy for their disease; we should share it with all we meet.

# Week 19 - Personal Sin



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

## Across

1. When God's people act foolishly, he speaks of them as \_\_\_\_ children.
3. Jesus says to those who saw human needs in their midst and did not address them as wicked and groups them with these.
5. Part of the problem of our sin is that we are rebellious and \_\_\_\_\_.
7. This person felt that he did not have to obey God's commands because he did not know God.
10. On account of sin, this is coming. (3 words).
11. '\_\_\_\_ I command you , you shall be careful to do.
12. Who has been a liar and a murderer from the beginning?
14. This is the Eighth Commandment (4 words).
19. The mouth of sinful man is like this, breathing out death (2 words).
21. Along with those outside the kingdom are anyone who practices this.
22. When confronted in his sin, Adam said, 'It was the \_\_\_\_ you gave me!'
23. Solomon said that God made man upright but that he pursues many \_\_\_\_\_.
26. In Revelation, along with sorcerers and other immoral people who are outside the Kingdom, other sinners are called \_\_\_\_\_.
27. This against God's commands is considered just like divination, presumption, sin, and idolatry.

## Down

2. 'It is \_\_\_\_ your God that you shall fear.' (2 words)
3. We are to overcome evil with this.
4. 'When you come into the land, you shall not learn the \_\_\_\_ practices of those nations.'
6. This person says that there is no God. (2 words)
8. Sorcery, witchcraft, divination, inquiring of the dead, and killing your children are examples of this before God.
9. This is not to be part of the character of the Christian (Hint: Ephesians 5:4)
13. This is the root of all evil (3 words).
15. While the feet of the Christians are to be shod with the Gospel, the feet of the wicked run to do this. (2 wrds)
16. 'For the Lord your God in your midst is a \_\_\_\_ God.'
17. The eyes of the sinner swell through this.
18. There is no fear of God in the eyes fo these people.
20. The people killed these messengers of God he sent to warn them about their sin.
24. 'There are \_\_\_\_ things that the Lord hates.'
25. Do not be slothful in this.