

Sin

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Healing Substitution Model: Sin is “lawlessness.” Sin is outside the law of love and violates the design template for life. God’s nature is to give (Matt. 5:45, 7:11, 20:28). Sin is selfishness, a condition of the heart/mind which leads to symptoms we call “sins.” Sin is therefore a deviation, a twisting, of the construction protocols under which life is designed to operate.

Penal Substitution Model: bad acts and behaviors that break God’s rules, rebellion against God’s rulership, that results in legal condemnation.

Documentation for Healing Substitution Model:

Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, **sin is lawlessness.** 1John 3:4

You have heard that it was said, ‘Do not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that anyone **who looks at a woman lustfully** has already committed adultery with her in his heart. Matt 5:27,28

You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks. The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and **the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him.** Matt 12:34,35

Anyone, then, who **knows the good** he ought to do and **doesn’t do it, sins.** James 4:17

I see **another law** at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. Romans 7:23

The **sinful mind** is hostile to God. It does not submit to God’s law, **nor can it do so.** Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God. Romans 8:7,8

Eve believed the words of Satan, and the **belief of that falsehood in regard to God's character, changed the condition and character of both herself and husband.** They were changed from good and obedient children into transgressors... RH, January 5, 1886 par. 8

All sin is selfishness. Satan's first sin was a manifestation of selfishness. He sought to grasp power, to exalt self. A species of insanity led him to seek to supersede God. And the temptation that led Adam to sin was Satan's declaration that it was possible for man to attain to

something more than he already enjoyed, possible for him to be as God Himself. **The sowing of seeds of selfishness in the human heart was the first result of the entrance of sin into the world.** God desires every one to understand the evil of selfishness, and to co operate with Him in guarding the human family against its terrible, deceptive powers. The design of the gospel is to confront this evil by means of remedial missionary work, and to destroy its destructive power by establishing enterprises of benevolence. {WB, September 9, 1902 par. 3}

Our only definition of sin is that given in the Word of God; it is "the transgression of the law;" it is the outworking of a ***principle*** at war with the great law of love which is the foundation of the divine government. {GC88 492.2}

Because sin is a “principle” and not merely a behavior, legal pardon does nothing to resolve the sin problem. Sin is resolved only by destroying the principle of selfishness from the heart and restoring God’s law of love back into the intelligent being.

Example, a person who has a plastic bag tied over his head, and therefore is in violation of the law of respiration, is not benefited by a legal pardon. Such a person is only benefited by being put back in harmony with the law that life is constructed to operate upon – removing the plastic bag.