

**What does God's Word tell us about His law and Sin? Rom 6:23, 8:1-5
SEPTEMBER 23,2017**

When the God of love created, He created all life in harmony with His own character of love. **All life is constructed to exist only when operating in perfect "other centered love"**. This principal can be identified as "**The Circle of Love**". All life, health, and happiness are dependent upon harmony with this law. Rom 8:2, Rom 13:8-10,1Cor 13:5, Phil 2:4.

Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law. Romans 13:10

The entire law is summed up in a single command:
Love your neighbor as yourself. Galatians 5:14

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."
Matt 22:37-40

In the way of righteousness there is life; along that path is immortality. Pr 12:28

He who pursues righteousness and love finds life, prosperity and honor. Pr 21:21

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul. Ps 19:7

What is sin? Why is it important to understand what sin really is?

Sin is a violation of loyalty and breach of trust. Failure to trust God is sin.

Rom 14:23. Or as John defines it, **sin is an attitude of lawlessness and rebellion**. 1John 3:4. Therefore, by my own choice, its doing it "**my way**".
Hosea 10:13

Sin is the absence of love. All sin is selfishness. Selfishness is the opposite of God. Sinfulness is being empty of love and full of the sickness of selfishness, the very opposite of God. Sin is, a condition that is opposed to love and, completely self-centered. If this condition is not cured by God, it will result in eternal death. Rom 3:23, Rom 6:23.

This terrible condition has symptoms that we call sins.

Sin impairs our ability to see how sick we are.

So, God in His great love for us, gave us the written law (The Ten Commandments) as a diagnostic tool to convict us of sin, to awaken us to our terminal state, to arouse us from sleep and lead us to Jesus for re-creation, cure and victory. James 1:22-25, 1Cor 15:57, 2 Cor 5:17.

Jesus is our Only Remedy. It's God who heals us. Isa 53:5. It's God who changes us and transforms us by restoring His Law of Love in our hearts & minds. It's God who forgives, setting us right and making us free. Psa 86:5 Psa 34:22, Rom 8:2, 2Cor 3:18,5:17,21. Heb 2:13.

To be set right with God, all He asks of us is unreserved whole hearted trust. We do not need to fear God who is trying to save and heal us; we need to fear sin, which if unremedied, destroys us! Rom 6:23

Thoughts for Contemplation!

In living for self, he has rejected that divine love which would have flowed out in mercy to his fellow men. Thus, he has rejected life. **For God is love, and love is life.** White, E. G. (1900). [*Christ's Object Lessons*](#) (p. 258). Review and Herald Publishing Association.

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.

The law of love being the foundation of the government of God, the happiness of all created beings depended upon their perfect accord with its great principles of righteousness. White, E. G. (1888). [*The Great Controversy Between Christ and Satan; Great Controversy*](#) (p. 493). Pacific Press Publishing Association.

The angels of glory find their joy in giving, —giving love and tireless watch care to souls that are fallen and unholy. Heavenly beings woo the hearts of men; they bring to this dark world light from the courts above; by gentle and patient ministry they move upon the human spirit, to bring the lost into a fellowship with Christ which is even closer than they themselves can know.

But turning from all lesser representations, we behold God in Jesus. Looking unto Jesus we see that it is the glory of our God to give. "I do nothing of Myself," said Christ; "the living Father hath sent Me, and I live by the Father." **"I seek not Mine own glory," but the glory of Him that sent Me. John 8:28; 6:57; 8:50; 7:18. In these words is set forth the great principle which is the law of life for the universe.**

**For Next Time: What does Romans 8:1-5 Say About God's Law?
Also, why does Paul Call the Galatians "Fools" in Chapter 3?**

All things Christ received from God, but He took to give. So in the heavenly courts, in His ministry for all created beings: through the beloved Son, the Father's life flows out to all; through the Son it returns, in praise and joyous service, a tide of love, to the great Source of all. And thus, **through Christ the circuit of beneficence is complete, (Circle of Love)** representing the character of the great Giver, the law of life. In heaven itself this law was broken. Sin originated in self-seeking. White, E. G. (1898). [*The Desire of Ages*](#) (Vol. 3, p. 21). Pacific Press Publishing Association.

Understanding God's love transforms us! 2Cor 3:18

“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance.” Galatians 5:22, 23. This fruit can never perish, but will produce after its kind a harvest unto eternal life. “When the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.” Christ is waiting with longing desire for the manifestation of Himself in His church. When the character of Christ shall be perfectly reproduced in His people, then He will come to claim them as His own. White, E. G. (1900). [*Christ's Object Lessons*](#) (pp. 68–69). Review and Herald Publishing Association.

Do not be discouraged and think that He will never pardon, because He says that though your sins are as scarlet He will make them as snow. The God of heaven offers every inducement for you to come and submit to the refining process. Shall we not come?

The love of Christ in the heart will do more to convert sinners than all the sermons you can preach. What we need is to get the love of Christ, that we may study the Bible and know what sayeth the scriptures. The word will be unfolded through the ceaseless ages of eternity. [*The Ellen G. White 1888 Materials*](#). (1987). (p. 162). Ellen G. White Estate.

It is high time that we were awake out of sleep, that we seek the Lord with all the heart, and I know He will be found of us. I know that all heaven is at our command. Just as soon as we love God with all our hearts and our neighbor as ourselves, God will work through us. [*The Ellen G. White 1888 Materials*](#). (1987). (p. 162). Ellen G. White Estate.

He causes “the light to shine out of darkness.” 2 Corinthians 4:6. When “the earth was without form, and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep,” “the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light; and there was light.” Genesis 1:2, 3. So in the night of spiritual darkness, God's word goes forth, “Let there be light.” **To His people He says, “Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.”** Isaiah 60:1.

“Behold,” says the Scripture, “the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people; but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee.” Isaiah 60:2.

It is the darkness of misapprehension of God that is enshrouding the world.

Men are losing their knowledge of His character. It has been misunderstood and misinterpreted. At this time a message from God is to be proclaimed, a message illuminating in its influence and saving in its power. ***His character is to be made known.*** Into the darkness of the world is to be shed the light of His glory, the light of His goodness, mercy, and truth.

This is the work outlined by the prophet Isaiah in the words, “O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God! Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand, and His arm shall rule for Him; behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him.” Isaiah 40:9, 10.

Those who wait for the Bridegroom’s coming are to say to the people, “Behold your God.” The last rays of merciful light, the last message of mercy to be given to the world, is a revelation of His character of love. ***The children of God are to manifest His glory. In their own life and character they are to reveal what the grace of God has done for them.***

The light of the Sun of Righteousness is to shine forth in good works—in words of truth and deeds of holiness.

Christ, the outshining of the Father’s glory, came to the world as its light. He came to represent God to men, and of Him it is written that He was anointed “with the Holy Ghost and with power,” and “went about doing good.” Acts 10:38. In the synagogue at Nazareth He said, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.” Luke 4:18, 19. This was the work He commissioned His disciples to do. “Ye are the light of the world,” He said. “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

Matthew 5:14, 16. White, E. G. (1900). [*Christ’s Object Lessons*](#) (pp. 415–417). Review and Herald Publishing Association.