

Christian Growth—What is Sin?

Introduction and Review: The battle for our mind

1. God the Father wants all Christians to grow spiritually.
 2. All sin was a thought first.
 3. Spiritual enemies put thoughts in our minds (Acts 5:3).
 4. Sin is against God (1 Cor. 8:12 *cf.* Acts 9:4).
 5. Sin is sin when God calls it sin, not a subjective standard (1 Jn. 3:4).
 6. Sin is an act of lawlessness against God's restrains (1 Jn. 3:4).
 7. You cannot sin in your mind (1 Cor. 6:18).
 8. Sin is an act of lawlessness (1 Jn. 3:4).
 9. Temptation is not sin!
 - a) Jesus could not sin yet He was tempted (Heb. 4:15; 2:18; Mt. 4:1).
 - b) The Father allows believers to be tempted (1 Cor. 10:13).
- A.** Temptation does not come from God: as source, agent or instrument (Jam. 1:13).
- B.** One makes a lust his own before it becomes temptation (Jam. 1:14).
- C.** When one determines to commit a sin act, he then gives birth to sin (Jam. 1:15).
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graph LR; A[Lust] --> B[Made Lust one's own]; B --> C[Temptation]; C --> D[Trespass]; D --> E[Sin Act]; F[In the Mind] --- G[Exterior]; H[Still "the way out"] --- I[Unrighteousness];
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- D.** Trespass: a false step, to step aside (Gal. 5:25-6:1).
  - a) A stage after temptation before sin.
  - b) Corresponds with “conceived” in James 1:15.
- E.** To trespass is to determine to act lawless, to sin.
- F.** A trespass is unrighteous (Rom. 4:25; Eph. 2:1).