

Overview on Sin for the Seminar Overview on Sin  
by Jack Horn

Brothers, in this conference, we are going to be talking about the problem of mankind. The problem of mankind is sin. We will be talking about three kinds of sin.

The first is sin as a power, like a person.

The second is the acts of sin mankind does: Things that are not the will of God. Rebellion against God's authority. Everyday living in ways that are not God's ways.

The third is the sin nature.

We will also be talking about God's solution to mankind's problem. The solution is Jesus and the cross.

### **WHERE THE PROBLEM STARTED**

Eph 2:1-3 (RSV) "And you he made alive, when you were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience. <sup>3</sup>Among these we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of body and mind, and so we were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind."

We were by nature children of God's wrath. Notice the scripture identifies the kingdom we were living in: The kingdom of this world. It is ruled by the prince of the power of the air. That spirit was working in us. Satan, the devil, is the ruler of that spirit.

Gen 2:16-17 (RSV) "And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; <sup>17</sup>but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.""

God commanded man not to eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. For in the day you shall eat of it, you shall surely die.

God gave man a law, "don't eat this fruit".

Gen 3:1-6 (RSV) "Now the serpent was more subtle than any other wild creature that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?'" <sup>2</sup>And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; <sup>3</sup>but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die. <sup>5</sup>For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." <sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, and he ate."

First, God gave the man authority over the serpent in

Gen 1:26 (RSV) "Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.""

When the man ate the fruit, he ate it by rebelling against God's authority. God had told him not to eat the fruit. Also, eating the fruit, he became a transgressor. A transgression is going ahead and doing the thing you were told not to do. Man became obedient to the serpent and not obedient to God. Rebellion against God's authority is the principle of Satan. When Satan rebelled against God's authority and was cast out of heaven, the principle of Satan began. That principle was passed on to mankind. When man ate the fruit, he became independent from God. Man became his own government, independent from God. All of this character was passed on to mankind, and we by nature were children of the wrath of God. All of mankind had a sin nature.

Gen 4:7 (RSV) "If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is couching at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it."

This is the first time sin is mentioned in the bible. God himself identifies sin as a power, like a person. In our teaching we are going to call him Mr. Sin.

Rom 7:22-23 (RSV) "For I delight in the law of God, in my inmost self, <sup>23</sup>but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin which dwells in my members."

Sin, the power, like a person, is in all of mankind's members. It is Satan's access to the mind of all mankind. In this conference we are going to be calling the power of sin a person, Mr. Sin. We will be doing it for our own benefit because in English there is only one word for sin. In French, you have sin defined with two words. One is a noun that is a person, place or thing. The other is a verb, an action that is done.

## **GOD'S SOLUTION TO SIN**

When man ate the fruit in the garden, man's spirit died to God. Man's spirit was separated from God. All of mankind suffered the same consequences. God began in Genesis to proclaim a new kingdom was coming. Prophets began to tell of the Kingdom of God.

Isaiah 9:6-7 (RSV) "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." <sup>7</sup>Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David, and over his kingdom, to establish it, and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and for evermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this."

A son would be born and the government would be on his shoulders. The kingdom of God would be a spiritual kingdom. John the Baptist began to proclaim the kingdom of God was at hand. When Jesus began his ministry, He began to teach on the kingdom of God. Jesus and the cross was God's answer to mankind's sin problem. It was also God's answer to our becoming a citizen in the new kingdom. The old kingdom of this world, of whom the God of this world was in charge, would no longer have authority over man. Our first birth with the sin nature died when God gave us our second birth by the Spirit. The new birth was our entrance into the Spiritual Kingdom of God. Our spirit became alive to God. 1Cor.15:45. This is an introduction into what we will be teaching in more depth. During these teachings, many questions will come up in our minds. We will have many question and answer times and our earnest desire is for you to ask questions.

\*\*\*\*\*End of Lesson\*\*\*\*\*