

# THE FOREST HILL NEWS

Published weekly by the Forest Hill church of Christ

*Visit our Website at [www.foresthillchurch.org](http://www.foresthillchurch.org)*

## **Forest Hill Church of Christ**

3950 Forest Hill-Irene Rd.  
Memphis, TN 38125

Office: (901) 751-2444  
Fax: (901) 751-9711  
Info Line: (901) 392-2449

### **Elders:**

Anthony D. Callahan  
Floyd M. Hayes  
Harold D. Mangrum  
Leonard Watson

### **Minister:**

Barry M. Grider

## **VISIT US SOON!**

### **Sunday:**

Bible Study..... 9:30 A.M.  
Morning Worship... 10:30 A.M.  
Evening Worship..... 6:00 P.M.

### **Wednesday:**

Bible Study .....7:00 P.M.

## **HOME OF MEMPHIS SCHOOL OF PREACHING**

### **Missions Supported:**

Iglesia de Cristo Memphis  
Kakinada, India  
Manila, Philippines  
Murmansk, Russia  
Far East/World Evangelism  
In Search of the Lord's Way

Volume 32

APRIL 20, 2004

Number 16

## **WHAT IS SIN? (Part Two) Barry M. Grider**

### **TYPES OF SIN**

The Bible speaks of various types or kinds of sin.

**1. Sins of Commission.** When an individual does that which is forbidden by the Lord he commits sin. Again, sin is the "transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4). God says not to steal, but when one steals, he is then guilty of a sin of commission. When one does that which is unrighteous he engages in sinful behavior, for "all unrighteousness is sin" (1 John 5:17).

**2. Sins of Omission.** When an individual does not do that which the Lord has authorized him to do, he sins by omission. James wrote, "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (Jam. 4:17). Examples of sins of omission.

- a. Forgetting to pray (1 Sam. 12:23).
- b. Refusing to use one's talents (Matt. 25: 14-30).
- c. Failing to teach others (1 Pet. 3:15).

Probably most Christians sin by way of omission, rather than commission. While, most likely, it is easier to repent of sins of omission as compared to sins of commission, neither will be overlooked by God, nor should man treat either lightly.

**3. Sins of disposition.** There are moments when one does good, but for the wrong reason. Consider the area of worship. Isaiah wrote:

When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread my courts? Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and Sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting. And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood. Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow (Isa. 1:12-17).

What was wrong? The heart was not right. When one does something good but through hypocrisy or selfishness, he sins. Hear our Lord,

And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly (Mat. 6:5,6).

In John 4:24, Jesus said, "God is a spirit, and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." The worshipper that pleases God must worship according to the proper standard - - "Truth." He must also worship with the proper attitude - - "in spirit."

**4. Secret sins** are those known only to the transgressor and God. These sins are of the mind or, when carried out, are hidden from the view of others, especially from respectable people. David prayed, "...cleanse thou me from secret faults" (Psm. 19:12). Since God knows and sees all things (Heb. 4:13), one cannot hide his sins from God. "Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance" (Psm. 90:8). President Abraham Lincoln said, "You can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time." Eventually, if one fails to repent and confess his secret sins, they will be made known. Moses said unto the children of Israel, "...and be sure your sins will find you out" (Num. 32:23). The last verse of the book of Ecclesiastes reads, "for God shall bring every work into judgement, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil" (Ecc. 12:14). May our prayer be the words of the following hymn:

Keep me from secret sin,  
Reign Thou my soul within;  
Purer in heart, help me to be.

**5. Ignorant sins** are those committed unknowingly or without understanding of God's will. Many have never read the Bible nor do they understand its relevance in their lives, yet "all have sinned," regardless. When one studies God's Word he becomes enlightened about his plight without Jesus Christ. Ignorance is no excuse for those who are lost. One cannot complain on Judgement Day, that he did not know any better.

Notice from the following passage in the Pentateuch, that one could sin through ignorance and an offering must be made for that sin:

Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, if a soul shall sin through ignorance against any of the Commandments of the Lord concerning things which ought not to be done, and shall do against any of them: If the priest that is anointed do sin according to the sin of the people; then let him bring for his sin, which he hath sinned, a young bullock without blemish unto the Lord for a sin offering (Lev. 4:2,3).

The apostle Peter stated that some who had obeyed the gospel had once walked according to their own lusts through ignorance (1 Pet. 1:14). Paul said he once persecuted the church, but he did so ignorantly (1 Tim. 1:13). Even so, though he obtained mercy, he was still responsible before God for his actions. One can also worship God ignorantly. Paul said to the Athenians, "For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you" (Acts 17:23). Again, ignorance was not an excuse.

**6. Willful sins.** How tragic it is to knowingly and deliberately sin against God. Despite God's warnings, His demonstration of love through Jesus Christ, the concern of others, and the suffering entailed, some continue in sin with no apology. Others actually plan their evil deeds and cannot wait to do that which the Lord has forbidden. Among those things God hates, "An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief" (Pro. 6:18).

**7. Presumptuous sins.** Those who engage in presumptuous sins are those who delight in their behavior. After listing the sinful deeds of a decadent society, Paul writes, "Who knowing the judgement of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them" (Rom. 1:32).

**8. Besetting sins.** "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us" (Heb. 12:1). While all of us are tempted, Satan knows our greatest temptation. Perhaps what may be a great temptation to one person is not to another. It is each individual's responsibility to know his weakness and take the necessary precaution to avoid being tempted.

**9. "Whatsoever is not of faith is sin" (Rom. 14:23).** In Romans 14, Paul is speaking of personal scruples. If an individual in good conscience cannot partake of something, he must not do so, for if he does that which violates his conscience, he sins in so doing.

(To be continued)

## DID YOU KNOW?

### DID YOU KNOW?

As you walk up the steps to the building which houses the U.S. Supreme Court you can see near the top of the building a row of the world's law givers and each one is facing one in the middle who is facing forward with a full frontal view – it is Moses and he is holding the Ten Commandments!

### DID YOU KNOW?

As you enter the Supreme Court courtroom, the two huge oak doors have the Ten Commandments engraved on each lower portion of each door.

### DID YOU KNOW?

As you sit inside the courtroom, you can see the wall, right above where the Supreme Court judges sit, a display of the Ten Commandments!

### DID YOU KNOW?

There are bible verses etched in stone all over the Federal Buildings and Monuments in Washington, D.C.

### DID YOU KNOW?

James Madison, the fourth president, known as “The Father of Our Constitution” made the following statement, “We have staked the whole of our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self-government, upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves, to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God.”

### DID YOU KNOW?

Patrick Henry, that patriot and Founding Father of our country said, “It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded not by religionists but by Christians, not on religions but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

### DID YOU KNOW?

Every session of Congress begins with a prayer by a paid preacher, whose salary has been paid by the taxpayer since 1777.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Fifty-two of the 55 founders of the Constitution were members of the established orthodox churches in the colonies.

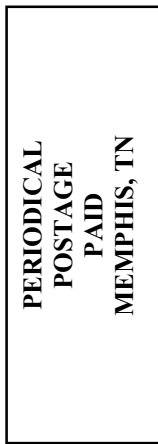
### DID YOU KNOW?

Thomas Jefferson worried that the Courts would overstep their authority and instead of interpreting the law would begin making law...an oligarchy...the rule of few over many.

### DID YOU KNOW?

The very first Supreme Court Justice, John Jay, said, “Americans should select and prefer Christians as their rulers.”

How, then, have we gotten to the point that everything we have done for 220 years in this country is now suddenly wrong and unconstitutional? Please forward this to everyone you can. Lets put it around the world and let the world see and remember what this great country was built on.



*The Forest Hill News* (USPS #018-150) is published weekly by the Forest Hill Church of Christ, 3950 Forest Hill-Irene Road, Memphis, TN 38125-2585.  
**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to Forest Hill News, 3950 Forest Hill-Irene Rd., Memphis, TN 38125-2585.