

## Why Do We Sin?

cf. 1 John 3:4; James 4:17; 1 John 5:17

## What Does Not Cause Us To Sin

- God does not cause us to sin. Jeremiah 7:8-10
- God may try us (Hebrews 11:17), but he never tempts to sin. James 1:13; cf. 1 John 2:15-16

## What Does Not Cause Us To Sin

- Temptation is not the direct cause of sin.
  - Jesus Christ was tempted. Hebrews 4:15
  - Our temptations are common and the extent of their influence is not permitted beyond our ability to withstand. 1 Corinthians 10:13
  - These bounds are not the will of Satan. cf. Job 1:10ff
  - Romans 6:16-17 We make choices.

## It Is Satan Who Tempts Us

- It is his desire to make men fall from the grace of God. cf. Galatians 5:4 cf. John 16:2
  - This evil one, "*stood up against Israel*" cf. 1 Chronicles 21:1
  - It was he who "*desired to have*" Peter that he might "*sift*" him as wheat. Luke 22:31
  - He appears as "*an angel of light*" 2 Corinthians 11:14
  - He appears as a "*wolf in sheep's clothing*" Matthew 7:15

## It Is Satan Who Tempts Us

- He appears as a subtle "*serpent*" 2 Corinthians 11:3
- He is described as a "*roaring lion*" seeking whom he may devour. 1 Peter 5:8
- He takes every "*advantage*" 2 Corinthians 2:11

## Satan Is Not Wholly Responsible

- While Satan tempts to sin, he cannot force a response.
  - Christ was tempted ... Hebrews 4:15, yet without sin

## Satan Is Not Wholly Responsible

- Our temptations are common ... the unusual is lacking; an escape is always possible. 1 Corinthians 10:13
- If we “resist the devil, he will flee” from us. James 4:7; cf. 1 Corinthians 6:18; 10:14; 2 Timothy 2:22
- Must meet him with the word of God, as Christ did. Matthew 4
- Satan may hinder, but a crown awaits the faithful. Revelation 2:10; cf. Galatians 5:7; 1 Thessalonians 2:18

7

## What Does Cause Us To Sin?

- “We believe the Scriptures teach that man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker; but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil; and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse.” (Hiscox Standard Baptist Manual; pages 137-138)

8

## What Does Cause Us To Sin?

- We are responsible for our own sins. Ezekiel 18:20; cf. Romans 6:16ff
- We are responsible for our false love. John 3:19-20; John 12:42-43; cf. 2 Thessalonians 2:10
- *Proverbs 4:17* “For they eat the bread of wickedness, And drink the wine of violence.”
- God leads away from sin; Satan can only go so far in temptation. 1 Corinthians 10:13
- Who is to blame for our response? cf. James 1:14-15

9

## What Does Cause Us To Sin?

- Who is to blame for our response? cf. James 1:14-15
- Greek - *deleazoo*  
1. properly, to bait, catch by a bait:  
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10

## What Does Cause Us To Sin?

- Who is to blame for our response? cf. James 1:14-15
- David and Bathsheba. 2 Samuel 11, 12
- Solomon. 1 Kings 11
- Peter. Luke 22:31, 54-62; Galatians 2:11
- Gentiles. Romans 1

11

## Conclusion

- Human laws reckon man accountable for his transgressions, and mete out consequences. Romans 13:4; Luke 23:39-43; Acts 25:11
- Nature inflicts suffering on those who violate the laws of nature.
- God holds man responsible for his sins, else punishment for sin is unjust. cf. Romans 3:23-26

12