

#### **Articles of Faith Statement**

We believe that Satan and sin separates us from God since the fall of man (Gen. 3:5–6). Through repentance and salvation a believer receives forgiveness of sin, reconciling them to God.

#### **Key Scriptures**

- "For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient." Ephesians 5:5–6 (NIV)
- "For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!" Romans 5:10 (NIV)
- "But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people." — 2 Timothy 3:1–5 (NIV)

## Insights

From the very beginning, sin has broken humanity's relationship with God. In Genesis 3:5–6, Adam and Eve chose to listen to Satan's deception rather than obey God, bringing separation, death, and a fallen world. Sin is not merely a mistake but rebellion against God's holiness.

Ephesians 5:5–6 warns that sin is not compatible with life in the kingdom of God. Persistent sin reveals an unrepentant heart, one that chooses idolatry over submission to Christ. God's wrath is not arbitrary but a just response to sin's destructive power.

Romans 5:10 brings hope: though sin made us enemies of God, reconciliation is possible through Jesus Christ. The cross is where the penalty of sin was paid, and the resurrection secures our new life. In Christ, forgiveness is not partial but complete, restoring us to fellowship with the Father.

Paul's warning in 2 Timothy 3 reminds us of sin's presence in the world and how it distorts human behavior. Self-centeredness, greed, and pride are symptoms of hearts turned from God. Satan uses these attitudes to blind people to truth, drawing them away from faith and godliness.

# Articles of Faith - Week 10 Sin/Satan



While sin separates, repentance opens the way to forgiveness. Through confession and faith in Christ, believers are reconciled to God and empowered by the Spirit to resist Satan's schemes. Sin is defeated at the cross, and Satan's ultimate power is broken, though he continues to tempt and deceive until Christ's return.

### **Application**

Understanding sin and Satan helps us take seriously the battle we face daily. The enemy seeks to destroy our faith, but Christ has given us victory. This means we do not fight in our own strength but in the power of the cross and resurrection.

Practically, we must recognize areas of temptation and bring them before God in repentance. Sin loses its grip when it is confessed and surrendered to Christ. Likewise, we must guard our hearts against the deceptive influences described in 2 Timothy 3 by grounding ourselves in Scripture and staying connected to the body of Christ.

Reconciliation with God through Christ not only restores our relationship with Him but also reshapes how we live. We can walk in freedom, knowing that Satan's lies and sin's hold no longer define us—our identity is now rooted in the grace and victory of Jesus.

| 1. How does Genesis 3:5–6 show the nature of sin and Satan's role in humanity's fall? |                               |
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| 2. What does Ephesians 5:5–6 teach us about the serio                                 | ousness of sin?               |
|   |                               |
| 3. How does Romans 5:10 give hope to those separate                                   | ed from God?                  |
|   |                               |
| 4. In what ways do you see the warnings of 2 Timothy 3                                | 3 reflected in today's world? |
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| 5. What steps can you take this week to resist sin and                                | walk in Christ's victory?     |
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