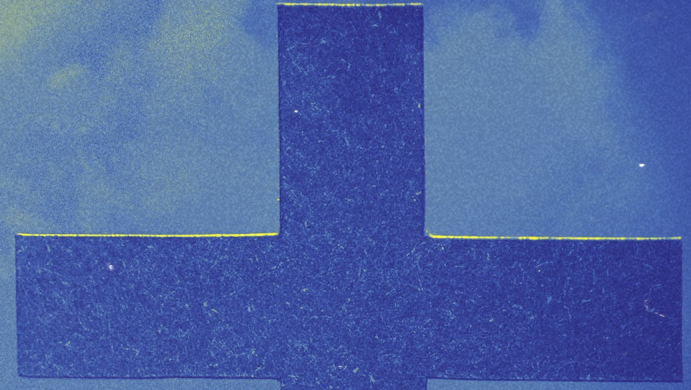


SIN & THE CROSS



“See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are! But the people who belong to this world don’t recognize that we are God’s children because they don’t know him. **2** Dear friends, we are already God’s children, but he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is. **3** And all who have this eager expectation will keep themselves pure, just as he is

John 3:1-10 (NLT)

pure. **4 Everyone who sins is breaking God's law**, for all sin is contrary to the law of God. **5** And you know that Jesus came to take away our sins, and there is no sin in him. **6 Anyone who continues to live in him will not sin. But anyone who keeps on sinning does not know him or understand who he is.** **7** Dear children, don't let anyone deceive you about this: When people do what is right, it shows that they are righteous, even as Christ is righteous. **8** But **when people keep on sinning, it shows**

John 3:1-10 (NLT)

that they belong to the devil, who has been sinning since the beginning. **But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil.** **9** Those who have been born into God's family do not make a practice of sinning, because God's life is in them. So they can't keep on sinning, because they are children of God. **10** So now we can tell who are children of God and who are children of the devil. **Anyone who does not live righteously and does not love other believers does not belong to God."**

John 3:1-10 (NLT)


**SIN has
become a
bad word...**





SIN & THE CROSS

01 - WHATEVER HAPPENED TO SIN?



GOD IS...
holy

THIRTY-FIVE CENTS

TIME

THE WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

Is
God
Dead?



SIN & THE CROSS

01 - WHATEVER HAPPENED TO SIN?

What Does the BIBLE Say About Sin?

1 John 3:4 (NLT) — “Everyone who sins is **breaking God’s law**, for all sin is contrary to the law of God.”

1 John 3:4 (NKJV) — “Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and **sin is lawlessness.**”

1 John 3:4 (ESV) — “Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; **sin is lawlessness.**”

1 John 3:4 (AMP) — “Everyone who commits (practices) sin is guilty of lawlessness; for [that is what] sin is, **lawlessness (the breaking, violating of God’s law by transgression or neglect—being unrestrained and unregulated by His commands and His will).**”



How Can You Sin and Not Be Lawless?

1. **Ignorance**

2.

3.

How Can You Sin and Not Be Lawless?

1. Ignorance
2. **Thoughtlessness**
- 3.



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How Can You Sin and Not Be Lawless?

1. Ignorance
2. Thoughtlessness
3. **Accidentally**



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01 - WHATEVER HAPPENED TO SIN?

What IS Lawlessness?

How is Sin Defined Biblically?

- a spirit within a person
- a force that is impelling, that rises up under certain provocation and places oneself as the final arbiter of life's decisions



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Romans 8:7 (NLT) — “For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. **It never did obey God’s laws, and it never will.”**

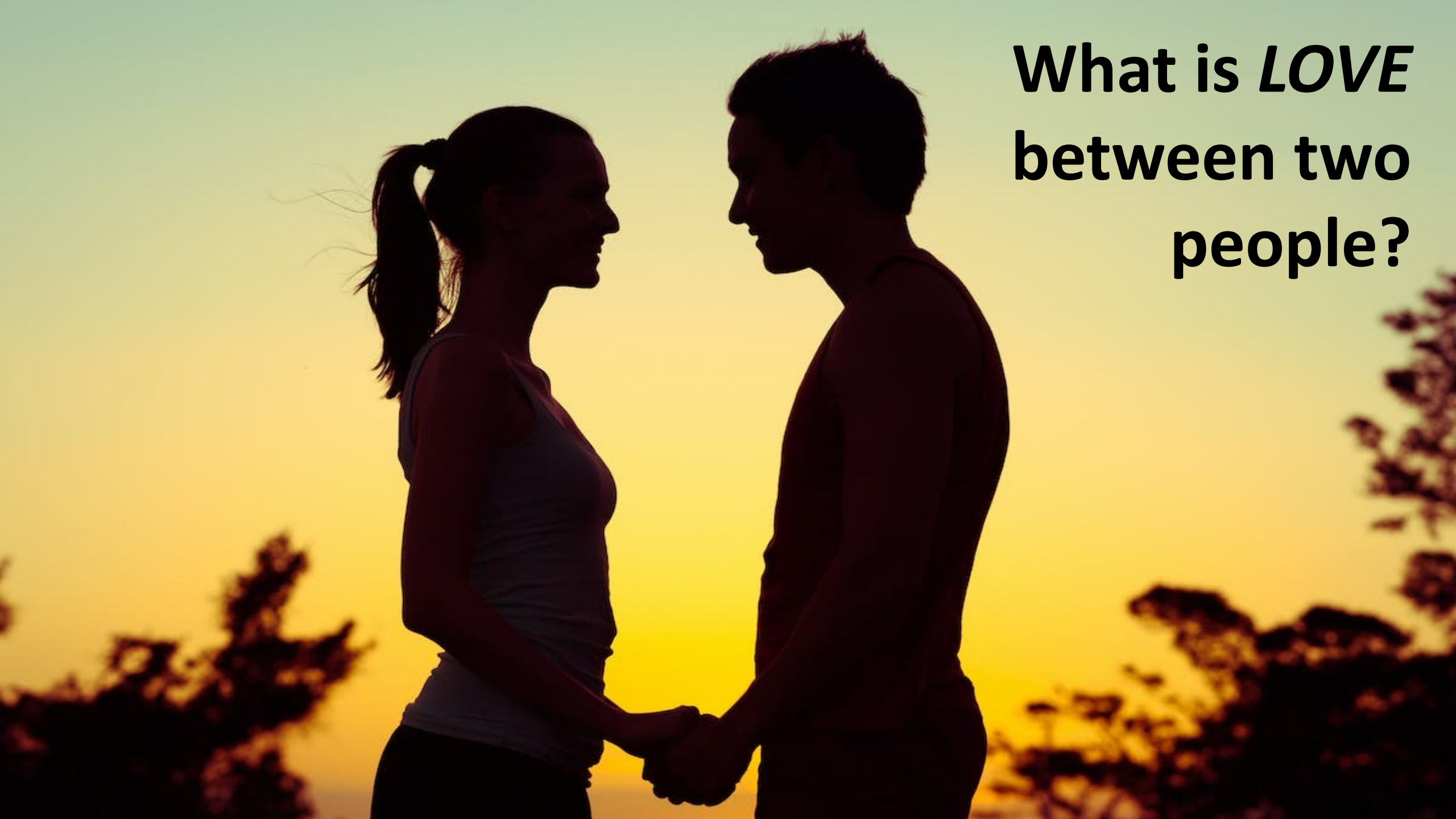
“uncontrollable lawlessness”

- God cannot control the sin nature
- It is not subject to His law
- He must do something else with it
- It must be killed, destroyed, or removed from within the heart of a person



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Romans 14:23 (NLT) — “But if you have doubts about whether or not you should eat something, you are sinning if you go ahead and do it. For you are not following your convictions. **If you do anything you believe is not right, you are sinning.**”

A romantic scene featuring the silhouettes of a man and a woman holding hands. They are positioned in the center-left of the frame, facing each other. The background is a soft, warm glow from a sunset or sunrise, with the sun low on the horizon. The sky transitions from a pale yellow near the horizon to a light blue at the top. Dark, out-of-focus silhouettes of trees are visible in the foreground and background, framing the couple. The overall mood is intimate and tender.

**What is *LOVE*
between two
people?**



Just as LOVE is a force... so is SIN.

“Now Adam had sexual relations with his wife, Eve, and she became pregnant. When she gave birth to Cain, she said, ‘With the LORD’s help, I have produced a man!’ **2** Later she gave birth to his brother and named him Abel. When they grew up, Abel became a shepherd, while Cain cultivated the ground. **3** When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the LORD. **4** Abel also brought a gift—the best portions of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The LORD accepted

Genesis 4:1-7 (NLT)

Abel and his gift, **5** but he did not accept Cain and his gift. **This made Cain very angry**, and he looked dejected. **6** ‘Why are you so angry?’ the LORD asked Cain. ‘Why do you look so dejected?’ **7 You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master.’”**

Genesis 4:1-7 (NLT)



“What is sin?”

1. **A controlling inner spirit**
- 2.



“What is sin?”

1. A controlling inner spirit
2. **An act of sin**



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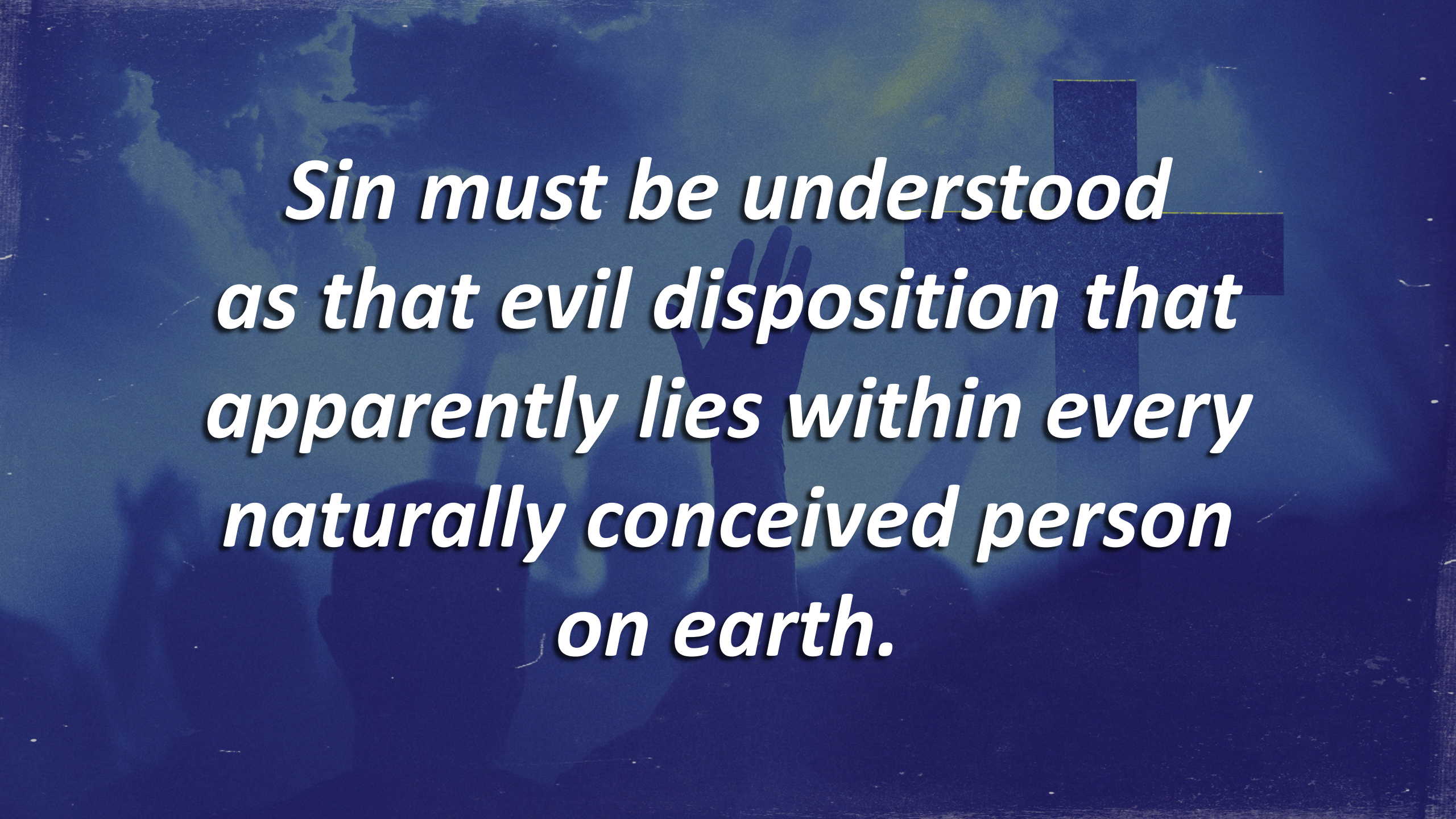
01 - WHATEVER HAPPENED TO SIN?

Sin Displayed

1 John 3:4 (NLT) — “Everyone **who sins** is breaking God’s law, for all sin is contrary to the law of God.”

1 John 3:8 (NLT) — “But when people **keep on sinning**, it shows that they belong to the devil, who has been sinning since the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil.”

1 John 3:10 (NLT) — “So now we can tell who are children of God and who are children of the devil.
Anyone who does not live righteously and does not love other believers does not belong to God.”



***Sin must be understood
as that evil disposition that
apparently lies within every
naturally conceived person
on earth.***

Romans 5:12 (NLT) — “When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam’s sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned.”

A hand holding a golden apple over another hand, with a cracked, dry background. The image is a composite of two Michelangelo's 'The Creation of Adam' paintings. The top half shows the hand of God reaching towards the apple, and the bottom half shows the hand of Adam reaching towards it. The background is a cracked, dry, greyish-brown surface, suggesting a parched landscape. A semi-transparent grey banner with yellow and black text is overlaid across the center.

We INHERITED Our Sin from ADAM

“How did I ‘get’ sin?”

- It is **INHERITED** from Adam.
- It is transmitted **THROUGH** our ancestors, not **FROM** them



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1 John 3:4 (NLT) — “Everyone who sins is breaking God’s law, for all sin is contrary to the law of God.”

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Anyone who does not live righteously and does not love other believers does not belong to God.”



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01 - WHATEVER HAPPENED TO SIN?

The Consequences of Sin

Romans 6:23 (NLT) — “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Isaiah 59:2 (NLT) — “It’s your sins that have cut you off from God. Because of your sins, he has turned away and will not listen anymore.”



Does God's
Love Cause Him
to **OVERLOOK**
Our "Little
Sins"?

Habakkuk 1:13 (NIV84) — “Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrong. Why then do you tolerate the treacherous?”

Numbers 32:23 (NLT) — “But if you fail to keep your word, then you will have sinned against the LORD, and you may be sure that your sin will find you out.”

Hebrews 4:13 (NLT) — “Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable.”

Galatians 6:7 (NKJV) — “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.”

Galatians 6:8 (NLT) — “Those who live only to satisfy their own **sinful nature** will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.”



“sinful nature”

- a person’s unregenerate, shameless self
- promises satisfaction but only ends in destruction

Galatians 5:17 (NLT) — “The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions.”

Galatians 5:19–21 (NLT) — “When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, **20** idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, **21** envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that **anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.**”



Sin

Indulging in Sin Leads to a Hardened Heart

1 Corinthians 2:14 (NLT) — “But people who aren’t spiritual can’t receive these truths from God’s Spirit. It all sounds foolish to them and they can’t understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means.”

Ezekiel 18:4 (NLT) — “For all people are mine to judge—both parents and children alike. And this is my rule: The person who sins is the one who will die.”



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01 - WHATEVER HAPPENED TO SIN?

The Remedy for Sin



The Remedy for Sin:

1. Conviction

- an act of the Holy Spirit

John 16:8 (NLT) — “And when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God’s righteousness, and of the coming judgment.”

The Remedy for Sin:

1. Conviction

2. **Contrition**

- an inner sorrow for sin



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Psalm 51:17 (NKJV) — “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart— These, O God, You will not despise.”

The Remedy for Sin:

1. Conviction

2. Contrition

3. **Confession**

- a deliberate agreeing with God



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1 John 1:9 (NKJV) — “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

The Remedy for Sin:

1. Conviction
2. Contrition
3. Confession
4. **Correction**
 - Repentance
 - A change produced by God's Spirit



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Acts 3:19 (NLT) — “Now repent of your sins and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped away.”



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01 - WHATEVER HAPPENED TO SIN?