



Introduction

- Ralph Venning – Puritan born in 1622 and died in 1674.
- In 1669 he published the book *Sin, The Plague of Plagues*, based on Romans 7:13.
- In 1993 it was renamed *The Sinfulness of Sin*.

What Sin Is

- “Whatever, then, transgresses the law of God – in whole or in part (James 2:20) – is therefore and therein a sin, whether it break an affirmative or a negative precept i.e. whether it is the omission of good or the commission of evil.”

The Sinfulness of Sin

Contrary to God

- Sin is contrary to the nature of God. Psalm 50:21; Romans 7:18
- Sin is contrary to all the names and attributes of God.
 - Sin attempts to usurp the sovereignty of God through lies.
 - Sin denies God’s all-sufficiency.
 - Sin challenges the justice of God.
 - Sin denies God’s omniscience. Ezekiel 8:12
 - Sin despises God’s goodness and kindness. Romans 2:4
 - Sin uses grace as justification for licentiousness.
 - Psalm 50; 2 Peter 3:3–4; Isaiah 29:16
- Sin is contrary to the works of God.
- Sin is contrary to the law and will of God. Hebrews 12:3
- Sin is contrary to and set against the glory of God.
- Sin is contrary and opposite to the being and existence of God. Romans 1:30; Acts 7:51
- Sin is in every way and in every case opposed to God.

Contrary to Man

- Sin is against man’s natural well-being in this life. Ecclesiastes 2:22-23
 - Sin is against man’s comfort and joy. Genesis 3:17
 - Sin is against man’s health.
 - Sin troubles our conscience. Proverbs 18:14; 12:25
 - Sin is against man’s relative good in this world. Micah 7:5-6; Psalm 41:9; James 4:1-2
 - Sin is against man’s natural well-being and it against man’s being as well.
- Sin is against man’s moral well-being in this life.



- Sin has degraded man. Romans 6:19; 3:13-14; 2 Peter 2:14; Hebrews 5:11; Micah 7:3; Philippians 3:19; Romans 3:15; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Genesis 6:5; Jeremiah 17:9
- Sin has darkened our understanding. John 3:19; Ephesians 5:11; John 11:9-10; Matthew 15:14
- Sin has made man a fool. Romans 3:22
 - Man foolishly ignores his ultimate end apart from Christ.
 - Man foolishly ignores the means and the way to true and lasting joy.
 - Man foolishly ignores the clear revelation of God.
- Sin has made man a beast. Psalm 73:22; Isaiah 1:3,
- Sin has separated us from God. Isaiah 59:2
- Sin is against the good of man in the life to come. Ephesians 2:3; John 3:36
 - Damnation of privation, what is lost by the sinner.
 - Positive damnation – what the unrepentant sinner gets when under God’s final wrath.