

# THE SIN THAT BESETS

*A Tangent Study of SIN*

## Purpose of This Study

- > We humbly wish to “work out our salvation with fear and trembling” and heed the warning of Hebrews 12:16-17 and search for its connection to 12:1-4.
- > Research the Biblical teaching of sin and seek to determine if the “sin that besets” is a component of “despising the birthright.” (Gen. 25:32)

*“... Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us...” - Heb. 12:1*

## SIN DEFINED

1. How does the Bible define sin?
  - A. I John 3:4-9
  - B. I John 5:17
  - C. James 4:17
  - D. Proverbs 24:9
2. How is man tempted to sin? James 1:14-15  
List the specific areas in which lust (I John 2:16-17) captivates.

## TYPES OF SIN

3. Are there categories of sin? Traditional church teaching has suggested that there are “gross” sins and “besetting” sins. Are some heavier than others? Jn. 14:21-23; Ro. 6:23; Ja. 2:10
  - A. The Sin of Audacity -
    1. Unrighteous Sin - I Cor. 6:9-10  
Can a person still living in this type of sin be saved? 6:11
    2. Presumptuous Sin - Psalm 19:13; Num. 15:30  
What is a key characteristic of this sin? II Peter 2:10
  - B. The Sin That Besets - Heb. 12:1
    1. Sin Against God -
      - a) Setting the things of this world before God - Matt. 13:22; I John 2:15-16
      - b) Setting others before God - Matt. 10:37
      - c) Lack of devotion or service - Matt. 25:40; II Cor. 5:14-15; II Tim. 2:15
    2. Sin Against the Brethren - I Corinthians 8:12
      - a) The Untamed Tongue - James 1:26; 3:3-12
      - b) The Unforgiving Heart - I John 2:9-12; James 5:9
      - c) Corrupt Communication - Eph. 4:22-32
    3. Sin Against Ourselves -
      - a) Arrogance/Self Righteous Pride - Mark 7:20-22; I Cor. 8:1-3
      - b) Fornication - I Thes. 4:3-9
      - c) Against your own body - I Cor. 6:15-20
  - C. The “Sin Unto Death” - I John 5:16-17; Matt. 12:31-32; Acts 7:51  
Why is this sin unforgivable? Is it possible for a child of God to commit this sin?

## ATTITUDE TOWARD SIN

4. How does the sin of the last days compare to the sin of all time? II Tim. 3:1-7
5. Self examination: How would you describe your attitude toward sin? Do you hate it and desperately want to turn from it or do you excuse it and claim to be the victim of circumstance?
  - A. Reaction of the regenerate  
Ps. 51:1-4; Ro. 6: 14-15; 7:15-24
  - B. Reaction of the reprobate  
Ps. 10:11; Heb. 10:26-30
6. Do the tears of Esau (Heb. 12:17b) teach about the weeping on the last day?  
Matt. 7:21-23; 8:12; Psalm. 11:5-6

“Many Will Say Unto Me in That Last Day, Lord, Lord...”



“...for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.”  
- Heb. 12:17

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## STRONG'S HEBREW/GREEK DEFINITIONS

1. **SIN** (G264) “Hamartano” - *to miss* the mark (and so not share in the prize); *to err* - for your faults, offend, sin, trespass.
2. **PRESUMPTUOUS** (H2086) “Zed” - *arrogant or proud*  
**PRESUMPTUOUS** (G5113) “Tolmetes” - *daring or audacious*
3. **BESET** (G2139) “Euperistatos” - *Well standing around; thwarting* (a competitor who keeps you from going where you want to go)

*“But He That Doeth Wrong Shall Receive the Wrong Which He Hath Done: (and) There is No Respect of Persons.” - Col. 3:25*