

Sugar-Coated Sin

Isaiah 5:18-20

A. Introduction

1. December 16, 1960 – United & TWA airliners collide, 134 dead
2. Just 11 miles “off the mark,” but what a tragic result
3. Is it possible for people of God to buy into world's take on sin?

B. Discussion

1. Sin Did Not Originate With Our Creator (Ec. 7:29)

- a. We choose our own way.
 - 1) Ez. 18:20 – Son not guilty by father
 - 2) Thanks be to God...judged by my own actions! (Re. 22:12; 2 Co. 5:10)
- b. Sin is a heart problem (Mt. 15:19)
 - 1) A sinner's heart is far from God (Mt. 15:8)
 - 2) My thoughts/words/actions determine my position with God...near/far

2. Sin Is A Reality!

- a. Satan is alive & active (1 Pe. 5:8)
- b. Sin is still bad & condemnable!
- c. Tempts different ones in different ways (1 Jn. 2:15-17)
- d. In days of Noah, “*Lord was sorry He made man on the earth.*”

3. Sin Is *SIN* – I Am Not Ashamed To Call It Such!

- a. We should never be ashamed to speak the truth in love (Ep. 4:15).
- b. Wrong is wrong...REGARDLESS!

4. Sin Has Tragic Effects

- a. What sin does
- b. Sin will:
 - 1) Take you farther than you wanted to go
 - 2) Keep you longer than you wanted to stay
 - 3) Cost you more than you are willing to pay (cf. Samson, Judges 16)
- c. The way of the transgressor is hard (Pr. 13:15)
 - 1) Consequences cannot be escaped (1 Co 15:22)
 - 2) Biblical examples:
 - a) **Eve & Adam** – sin, suffering, & shame (Ge. 3)
 - b) **Achan** – silver & gold he could not spend (Josh. 7)
 - c) **David** – took another man's wife; brought death (2 Sa. 11-12)
 - d) **Judas** – betrayed Son of God for 30 pieces of silver
 - e) **Demas** – forsook the Lord because he loved world (2 Ti. 4)
 - 3) Greatest consequence is eternal punishment (Mk. 16:16)

5. Sin Has A Remedy

- a. Dark, depressing picture, but...“Light at the end of the tunnel”
- b. What do I do with sin? At least seven choices...
- c. The remedy found only “in Christ.”
- d. How does one get into Christ?

C. Conclusion

1. Sin is a horrible & condemning reality.
2. World seeks to sugar-coat it or even deny its very existence!
3. We are ALL sinners (Ro. 3:23)
4. Sin cannot be merely covered up or forgotten
5. Hear the word of the Lord...

*“Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.
Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”
(Ro. 12:9, 21)*