

Inborn Sin

Part 1

Introduction

1. Good people can and do teach some horrible things through lack of Bible study or repeating what they have been taught by those who have misunderstood or deliberately twisted the Scriptures.
2. One of these doctrines is that babies have inborn sin and are born lost.
 - a. Catholic teaching alleges that “small infants are sinful - born sinners!”
 - b. The Catechism of the Catholic Church declares:

Born with a fallen human nature and tainted by original sin, children also have need of the new birth in Baptism to be freed from the power of darkness and brought into the realm of the freedom of the children of God, to which all men are called (1994, 1250).

3. The acceptance of this false doctrine has led millions to sprinkle babies believing this cleanses a baby of its inborn sins.
4. This is done believing this saves the baby from its inborn sins and means if the baby dies he/she is not lost.
5. It is hard to believe that good people can be duped into believing this devilish doctrine.
6. It is not what God teaches! It is an abuse and twisting of Scripture!
7. The Bible teaches that children do not bear the sin of their parents (Exod. 32:32-33; Deut. 24:16; 2 Chron. 25:4; Ezek. 18:20).

Exod. 32:32 But now, if You will, forgive their sin—and if not, please blot me out from Your book which You have written!”

Exod. 32:33 The LORD said to Moses, “**Whoever has sinned against Me**, I will blot him out of My book.

Deut.24:16 “Fathers shall not be put to death for their sons, nor shall sons be put to death for their fathers; **everyone shall be put to death for his own sin.**

2 Chron. 25:4 However, he did not put their children to death, but did as it is written in the law in the book of Moses, which the LORD commanded, saying, “**Fathers shall not be put to death for sons, nor sons be put to death for fathers, but each shall be put to death for his own sin.**”

Ezek. 18:20 **The person who sins will die.** The son will not bear the punishment for the father’s iniquity, nor will the father bear the punishment for the son’s iniquity; the righteousness of the righteous will be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked will be upon himself. **See also 2 Kgs. 14:6; Jere.31:30.**

8. Psalm 51 has been and still is used to teach inborn sin. To understand Psalm 51, we must keep in mind that the subject of this chapter is David’s sin, not original sin.

9. Consider the nouns and possessives David used to indicate that the sin which he was talking about was the sin he committed:

- 1) “Blot out **my** transgressions” (vs. 1);
- 2) “Wash **me** thoroughly from **my** iniquity, and cleanse **me** from my sin” (vs. 2);
- 3) For I know **my** transgressions, And my sin is ever before **me**. (vs. 3);
- 4) Against You, You only, **I** have sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, (vs. 4)
- 5) Purify **me** with hyssop, and **I** shall be clean; Wash **me**, and **I** shall be whiter than snow. (vs. 7)
- 6) “Make **me** hear joy and gladness” (vs. 8);
- 7) “Hide Your face from **my** sins...blot out all **my** iniquities” (vs. 9);
- 8) “Create in **me** a clean heart...renew a steadfast spirit within **me**” (vs. 10).

10. There is not even the slightest allusion to some kind of original sin in the psalmist’s supplication.

- a. It was from his own sins and transgressions that the psalmist desired to be freed.
- b. He was not blaming Adam nor his father or mother, but he was rightly blaming himself!
- c. David was declaring that he was born into a world that was covered, plagued, and influenced by sin.
- d. **David was blaming himself for his sin - not others!**
- e. David was accountable for the sins he personally committed - he was not forced to sin.

11. Jesus did not teach little children are sinners nor tainted with the guilt of Adam’s sin, but He taught we must be humble like little children to be saved. (Matt. 18:3, 4; Mk. 10:13-16).

Matt. 18:3 and said, “Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Matt. 18:4Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Mk. 10:13 And they were bringing children to Him so that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked them.

Mk. 10:14 But when Jesus saw this, He was indignant and said to them, “Permit the children to come to Me; do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

Mk. 10:15“Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it at all.”

Mk. 10:16 And He took them in His arms and began blessing them, laying His hands on them.

12. Prior to the Christian dispensation both John the Baptist and his disciples and the disciples of Jesus baptized [immersed] penitent men and women in the Jordan river and other places.

- a. Matthew recorded these words in Matthew 3. (Matt. 3:4-6).

Matt. 3:4 Now John himself had a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist; and his food was

locusts and wild honey.

Matt. 3:5 Then Jerusalem was going out to him, and all Judea and all the district around the Jordan;

Matt. 3:6 **and they were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, as they confessed their sins.**

- b. It is clear those being baptized by John were those who were confessing their own sins.
- c. There is not even a hint that infants and little children were being baptized or needed to be baptized.
- d. If infants and small children were sinners, John would have called upon them to repent and be immersed.
- e. If inborn sin is fact, this had been true since Adam and Eve brought children into the world.
- f. There is nothing to substantiate this claim of infant baptism in the Bible.
- g. Long after the completion of the holy Scripture, men began to advocate inborn sin.

Misused Scripture

1. The words of David found in the 51st Psalm are used to prove babies have inborn sin. (Psa. 51:5).

Psa. 51:5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me.

- a. Many have taught this means the infant David was born a sinner.
 - b. It ignores the fact that a baby does not know its right hand from its left hand and knows nothing about sin.
 - c. There is nothing more helpless and innocent than a newborn baby who has no sense of right or wrong.
 - d. It is a fact David and all other infants have been born into a sinful world
 - e. He is not affirming he was born a lost sinner because of what Adam and Eve did and passed on to his mother and father.
2. This false doctrine of inborn sin means [teaches] Jesus was also born a sinner.
- a. Though He was born of the virgin Mary, He was born into the world of sin and would have inborn sin
 - b. Mary was not sinless and her children would have inborn sin if all infants have inborn sin.
 - c. This false doctrine would mean Jesus was a sinner and a sinner could not atone for the sins of mankind.
 - d. Over and over again the Bible teaches Jesus was sinless. (1 Pet. 2:22; 1 Jn. 3:4,5).

1 Pet. 2:22 WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH;

1 Jn. 3:4 Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness.

1 Jn. 3:5 You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; **and in Him there is no sin.**

- 1) There was no sin in Him before or after the world was created.
- 2) There was no sin in Him while in He was in the womb of His mother.

3) There was no sin in Him as an infant or as a child or as an adult.

4) Jesus lived a life without sin (1 Pet. 2:22; 1 Jn. 3:15).

1 Pet. 2:22 who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth;

1 Jn. 3:15 You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin.

5) Satan never charged Jesus was born a sinner; thus He could not be the Savior even if He never personally sin.

3. The false doctrine of inborn sin contradicts these Scriptures.

a. Paul made this significant statement. (Rom. 3:20).

Rom. 3:20 because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; **for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.**

b. John, the apostle declared that “sin is lawlessness” (1 Jn. 3:4)

c. Infants do not and cannot know the Law of God. They cannot understand it.

d. If infants cannot know the Law of God or understand it, they cannot commit lawlessness.

1) No one would draw the conclusion that sweet and precious babies are lost by looking at them and by being around them and seeing their innocence.

2) Only a false interpretation of the Scriptures to justify infant baptism would bring one to this abominable conclusion.

Meaning Of Psalm 51:5

1. The meaning of Psalm 51:5 is David was born into a world of sin.

Psa. 51:5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me.

a. “Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity [that is a sinful world], And in sin [a sinful world] my mother conceived me.

b. It is not sinful to become a mother, but it is part of God’s Divine plan. (Gen. 1:28; 1 Tim. 2:15).

Gen. 1:28 God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.

1 Tim. 2:15 But women will be preserved through the bearing of children if they continue in faith and love and sanctity with self-restraint.

c. David’s mother and all of us do personally sin. (Rom. 3:10, 23).

Rom. 3:10 THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;

Rom. 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

d. We all do our own sinning - not someone for us. (Isa. 53:6)

Isa. 53:6 All of us like sheep **have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way;** But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.

- 1) It is significant that Isaiah uses the words “has turned to his own way.”
 - 2) He also declared “each of us has turned to his own way.”
 - 3) We all suffer the consequences of Adam’s sin, that is, we must return to the dust of the earth as he did.
 - 4) None of us suffer the guilt of Adam’s sin and stand condemned because of what he did.
2. To understand what David was saying it is vital that we carefully examine the context of his statement.

What About Children Who Die In Child Birth Or Die As Little Children?

1. Are they lost? Are they barred from heaven? Are they doomed for hell?
2. The Scriptures never teach this wicked doctrine.
3. This would mean a baby who died in the womb or before baptism would be lost.
4. This means all unbaptized children, even babies and small children, are lost.

What About Jesus

1. Some argue for original sin, but contend Jesus was exempt from original sin.
2. If original sin is correct, where is the Scripture teaching Jesus was exempt from it because He was born of the virgin Mary.
3. It is alleged Jesus was exempt from it that He might be the Savior.
4. **Jesus could not be our Savior if He had inborn sin or committed a single sin!**
5. The Lamb of God had to be sinless and this is the reason the Scriptures put such great emphasis on the importance of the sinlessness of Jesus.

Note:

1. The Immaculate Conception is a Catholic dogma that the virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus, was preserved free from original sin [the stain of sin inherited from Adam].
2. By God’s grace she was conceived and born free of sin. She was born sinless and remained sinless.
3. Immaculate Conception contends the sinless virgin gave birth to Jesus who was not born with inborn sin because of His sinless mother.

Conclusion.

1. Next week we will study some additional Scriptures refuting inborn sin.
2. This is a devilish doctrine that advocates baptizing sinless infants.

3. Most of these infants are never immersed for remission of sins as they Bible commands. (Acts 2:38; 22:16).

Acts 2:38 Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 22:16 “Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.”

- a. Such words were never directed to infants or even small children.
- b. They were directed to those who knew right from wrong and needed to repent of their sins.
- c. They were directed to all who wish to be saved.