

Inborn Sin

Part 2

Introduction.

1. In Part 1 of this two part lesson we began a detailed study of “**Inborn Sin.**”
2. We revealed how Scriptures are twisted and abused to teach this devilish doctrine.
3. The Bible does not teach infants are sinners who need to be baptized to avoid being lost.
4. Infants are sinless and do not sin until they reach the age where they clearly know right from wrong.
5. There is no evidence that infant baptism was practiced in the New Testament.

- a. John the Baptist immersed those repenting and confessing their sins. (Matt. 3:1-2, 5-6).

Matt. 3:1 Now in those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, saying,
Matt. 3:2 “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

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.

- Infants have no sins .If infants had sins, they would be incapable of identifying them and confessing them.
- b. Jesus did not personally baptize anyone, but His disciples baptized those turning from their sins. (Jn. 4:1-2). See Matt. 4:17; Mk. 6:12

Jn. 4:1 Therefore when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John

Jn. 4:2 (although Jesus Himself was not baptizing, but His disciples were),

6. The earliest records mentioning infant baptism were in the late 2nd century and early 3rd century.
 - a. It was very controversial.
 - b. It became the standard in the Catholic church in the 4th and 5th centuries.

Other Misused Words Of David

1. Here are some other words of David that are misused to prove babies have inborn sin. (Psa. 58:3).

Psa. 58:3 The wicked are estranged from the womb; These who speak lies go astray from birth.

- As children grow they are heavily influenced by their parents, friends and others.

- In time they are able to clearly distinguish right from wrong and old enough to be held accountable for personal sins.
 - a. David knew that the literal meaning of his statement was false, as shown by another statement from him: (Psa. 22:9-10).

Psa. 22:9 Yet You are He who brought me forth from the womb; You [God] made me trust when upon my mother's breasts.

Psa. 22:10 Upon You I was cast from birth; You have been my God from my mother's womb

- b. This statement in Isaiah 58:3 is false if taken literally. At birth he did not know right from wrong.
- c. **Babies do not trust God on their mothers' breasts**, but they must be taught to trust in God and His Son.
- d. Here are some others words of David that should not be understood literally. (Psa. 71:6).

Psa. 71:6 By You I have been sustained from my birth; You are He who took me from my mother's womb; My praise is continually of You.

- e. What Ezekiel said about a certain "king of Tyre" (about 586 B.C.), concerning his "unrighteousness," is the Bible teaching about all babies: "**You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created.**" (Ezek. 28:15).
 - 1) This wicked king was described as "perfect" in his ways "from the day" he was "created" (born).
 - 2) What he became was not because of inborn sin, but was because of his wicked friends and choices he made in life.
 - 3) The word of God gives these warnings to those capable of discerning right from wrong. (Psa. 1:1-2; 1 Cor. 15:33).

Psa. 1:1 How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!

Psa. 1:2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night.

1 Cor. 15:33 Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals."

Absurd

1. It is absurd and devilish to believe babies are born sinners.
 - a. Nothing is more innocent than a newborn baby!
 - b. They have no sense of right from wrong.
2. It is absurd to baptize those who are not old enough to believe in the Lord Jesus and know what is being done to them!
 - a. **It is absurd to baptize those who have no knowledge of right and wrong!**
 - b. Getting wet alone does not save.

3. Only children who are old enough to have “faith in Christ Jesus” are to be “baptized into Christ” and are accountable to God. (Gal.3:26, 27).

Gal. 3:26 for you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

Gal. 3:27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

4. We should remember these words Jesus spoke about little children. (Matt. 18:10, 14; 19:14).

Matt. 18:10 “See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven continually see the face of My Father who is in heaven.

Matt. 18:14 So it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones perish.

Matt. 19:14 But Jesus said, “Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

5. We should remember there is not a single example of an infant or a young child being baptized.

6. Some have attempted to prove this devilish doctrine by assuming there were infants in the households who were baptized.

a. Household of Stephanas. (1 Cor. 1:16).

1 Cor. 1:16 Now I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized any other.

1) Paul contends he baptized “the household of Stephanas.”

2) There is no way of knowing who was in the household or if there were infants they baptized.

3) Many families have no babies or small children.

b. Household of Lydia (Acts 16:14, 15).

Acts 16:14 A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.

Acts 16:15 And **when she and her household had been baptized**, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

1) Luke reports that Lydia and “her household” were baptized.

2) Some have **assumed there were infants in her household**, but this is an argument from silence.

3) Lots of households do not have infants and even if they have infants it does not prove they should be baptized.

4) Baptism is for penitent believers, and infants are incapable of believing or repenting.

5) Infants are not old enough to know their right hand from their left hand; much less know right from wrong or have any conception of God and sin.

c. Household of the jailor. (Acts 16:25-34).

- 1) Paul and Silas were in prison praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. (Acts 16:25).
- 2) “Suddenly there came a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison house were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were unfastened. (Acts 16:26).
- 3) The jailor was about to kill himself because he knew he faced death because he feared his prisoners had escaped. (Acts 16:27).
- 4) Paul called out with a loud voice, saying, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here!” (Acts 16:28).
- 5) “After the jailor brought them out, he cried out “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” (Acts 16:29-30).
- 6) Luke reports Paul and Silas responded with these words. (Act 16:31-32).

Acts 16:31 They said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”

Acts 16:32 And **they spoke the word of the Lord to him together with all who were in his house.**

- Paul and Silas “spoke the word of the Lord to him together with all who were in his house” suggests hearing and believing were prerequisites to baptism.
- Both Jesus and Paul also emphasized hearing is essential to salvation. (Jn. 6:45; Rom. 10:17).

- 7) Luke then reports (Acts 16:33, 34).

Acts 16:33 And he took them that very hour of the night and washed their wounds, **and immediately he was baptized, he and all his household.**

Acts 16:34 And he brought them into his house and set food before them, and rejoiced greatly, **having believed in God with his whole household.**

- 8) Luke reports the jailor and his household were baptized.
- 9) It was required that they “believe in the Lord Jesus” to be saved.
- 10) This faith “in the Lord Jesus” leads one to repent of his/her sinful ways and to be baptized that his/her sins be washed away. (Acts 22:16). See Acts 2:38.

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

- 11) It is an assumption to contend there were infants in that household and they were baptized.
- 12) Observe Luke affirms in regard to those baptized, “**having believed in God with his whole household.**”
- 13) Luke informs that “his whole household..believed in God.”
- 14) As already affirmed infants are not aware there is a God and have no knowledge of right or wrong.
- 15) They are incapable of believing in God as infants and have no sins to confess.
- 16) **Nothing is more innocent than a newborn baby!**

17) We must not baptize babies, but we are to train them in the way of the Lord. (Prov. 22:6; Eph. 6:4).

Prov. 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Eph. 6:4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

- Not every child raised to love and obey God will remain faithful to the Lord.
- Not all are faithful even while they are still living at home.
- We are all free moral agents.
- Many will remain faithful to the Lord, but not all for a variety of reasons.

Additional Notes

1. To arrive at a correct interpretation of Psalm 51, we also must consider other biblical passages where similar expressions are used.

a. For example, Isaiah declared: “The Lord has called me from the womb; from the matrix [womb] of my mother He has made mention of my name” (Isa. 49:1).

1) The all-knowing God had plans for Isaiah.

2) This did not mean he or any other had inborn sin.

b. In Jeremiah 1:5, God told His prophet: “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before **you were born I sanctified you.**” **God set him apart for service.**

c. If by the expression, “I was brought forth in iniquity” (Psa.51:5), David alluded to the original sin he bore, how do Catholics explain Isaiah and Jeremiah’s declarations of sanctity inside the womb?

d. Were these two prophets, Isaiah and Jeremiah, born without the contamination of original sin?

e. According to Catholicism, only Jesus and Mary were born in a completely holy condition.

f. These passages cannot be reconciled with the Catholic dogma of original sin.

2. Bible students seeking the truth need to consider Romans 5:12.

Rom. 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man [Adam] sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned.

a. This verse does not teach we bear the guilt of Adam’s sin.

b. **It teaches that physical death, not spiritual death, is the consequence of Adam’s sin.**

c. Because of Adam all must die physically and because of Christ all will be raised from the dead. (1 Cor. 15:22-23).

1 Cor. 15:22 For as in Adam all die [physically], so also in Christ all will be made alive [raised from the dead].

1 Cor. 15:23 But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming,

1) The risen Christ is "the first fruits" [the pledge] of our resurrection at His coming.

2) All will be raised from the dead when Christ returns. (Jn. 5:28,29; Acts 24:15).

Jn. 5:28 Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, Jn. 5:29 and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.

Acts 24:15 having a hope in God, which these men cherish themselves, that there shall certainly be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.

d. We die spiritually because of the sins we have committed. (Rom. 3:10-12, 23).

Rom. 3:10 as it is written, "There is none righteous, not even one;

Rom. 3:11 There is none who understands, There is none who seeks for God;

Rom. 3:12 All have turned aside, together they have become useless;

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

Conclusion.

1. We are not born sinners, but become sinners when we are old enough to understand right from wrong.

2. Once we have this understanding and are old enough to trust in Jesus as Savior we need to be baptized.

3. It is vital that everyone wishing to have eternal life with God repent of their sins and be immersed for the remission of sins. (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."