Grace Evangelical Free Church

Issues & Answers: Biblical Sins

1. IDOLATRY — the making of any created thing to be your "god;" settings your ultimate love upon, finding your ultimate security in, or giving your ultimate allegiance to any created thing(s), whether material, human, or formal false religious gods. Attributing uniquely divine attributes to created entities or things; worshiping such as God. Idolatry is a sin of atheism as by necessity it effectively makes "gods" out of created things. (Is. 45:18; Ex. 20:3 Dt. 5:7; 6:5,14; 17:2-7; 27:15; Acts 21:25; 1 Cor. 5:11; 12:2; 2 Cor. 6:16; 1 Thes. 1:9; 1 Jn. 5:21; Rev. 2:14,20; 9:20)

2. BLASPHEMY — attacking or otherwise showing disrespect toward God and His character, in word or deed. Includes charging God, who alone is eternal, infallible, omnipotent and omniscient, and does what is right (especially in the light of eternity), with being immoral. (Mk. 7:22; Lv. 24:16; 1Ki. 21:10; Mt. 12:31; Acts 26:11; James 2:7) Such as many angry atheists do, effectively presuming omniscience and superior wisdom in judging God, who alone is omniscient and omnipotent, and able to make all things work out for good, as He always ultimately does for those who are His. (Rm. 8:28)

3. TAKING THE NAME OF GOD IN VAIN — misusing or misappropriating God's name and authority for any purpose, such as invoking the name of God/Christ to give authority to the unholy curses or purposes of man; includes falsely speaking prophecy in the name of the LORD. It is a form of the sin of profanity. (Lv. 19:8, 12; Dt. 18:20a; 20:7; Jer. 20:1-6; 28:1, 2, 10-17; 29:24-32)

4. PROFANITY — irreverence or being contemptuous in word or deed toward what God calls holy, sanctified. (Lev. 19:12; 21:23; Neh. 13:17-18; Ezek. 23:26; 44:23; Mal. 2:10, 11; Eph. 4:29; 1Co. 7:14; 1Tim. 4:7; 6:20; Heb. 12:16)

5. BEING A FALSE PREACHER — one who entices others to practice false religion, to go after other gods; apostasy, or which teach contrary to scriptural truths. (Dt. 13:6-12; Mt. 23:15; Acts 13:10; 2 Cor. 11:13-15). Akin to the sin of misdirecting people, from making the blind wander out of the way to maliciously giving false directions. (Dt. 27:18; Mt. 15:14)

6. WITCHCRAFT — the practice of witches; occult magic: Ouija boards, astrology, palmistry, necromancy, divination, etc.; also likened to rebellion. (Ex. 22:18; Lv. 19:31; 20:6, 27; 1 Sam. 15:23)

7. CHILD SACRIFICE TO IDOLS, FALSE GODS — includes abortion (most of which are done for convenience), or directing children to teachings and ideologies contrary to God's word, which directs them on the path of damnation. (Lv. 18:21; 20:2; Dt. 12:31; 18:10)

8. REBELLION AGAINST PARENTS — Cursing, disrespect, or constant rebellion against parents (except where obedience is required due to conflict with God's word) (Ex. 20:12; 21:15, 17; cf. Lv. 20:9; Dt. 21:18; 27:16)

9. DISOBEDIENCE TO AUTHORITY — Disobedience to just judgments by God-ordained authority. (Dt. 17:9,10a, 11b, 12; Josh 1:18; Rm. 13:1-7; 1Pet. 2:13,14)

10. MURDER — premeditated killing with malice; intentional unlawful and or unjust killing of a human (includes abortion and suicide); homicide with malicious forethought. (Ex. 21:12-14: Lv. 24:17; Num. 35:31; Dt. 19:11,12; Jn. 8:44; 1 Tim. 1:9; 1 Pet. 4:15; 1 Jn. 3:15); includes murdering one in one’s own thoughts which is a reflection of the true heart attitude. (Mk. 7:21)

11. NEGLIGENT HOMICIDE — death of another caused by one's own negligence. (Ex. 21:29)

12. HOMOSEXUAL RELATIONS — sexual activity between persons of the same gender; seeking to join same genders in marriage (cf. here and here (Lv. 18:22; 20:13; Rm. 1:26,27; 1 Tim. 1:10)

13. EFFEMINANCY — men unnaturally taking on female characteristics and behavior, contrary to the distinctive nature of opposite genders God created. (1 Cor. 6:9; cf. Dt. 22:5)

14. BESTIALITY — sexual relations between humans and animals. (Ex. 22:19; Lv. 18:23; 20:15; Dt. 27:21)

15. ADULTERY — violation of the marriage bed; extramarital sexual relations in heart or actions (includes lusting by pornography). (Lv. 20:10; Dt. 22:23-25; Mk. 7:20-23; Jn. 8:3-5; Gal. 5:19; 1 Cor. 6:9)

16. FORNICATION — sexual intercourse before marriage: also adultery and spiritual unfaithfulness. (Gn. 34; Mt. 19:9; Mk. 7:20-23; Acts 15:20; 21:25; Rm. 1:29; 1 Cor. 5:1,11; 6:13,19; 7:2; Gal. 5:19; Eph. 5:3; Col. 3:5; 1Thes. 4:3; Rev. 9:21; 14:8; 17:2,4; 18:3; 19:2);

17. SEXUAL UNCLEANNESS — all unnatural, impure or otherwise illicit (such as unmarried) sexual activity, in heart or deed. (Mk. 7:20-23; 2Cor. 12:21; Gal. 5:19; Eph. 5:3; Col. 3:5)

18. DECEIT, LYING — dishonesty in every form; being a false witness. (Dt. 19:15; Mk. 7:22; 14:1; Acts 13:10; Rm. 1:29; 1 Tim. 1:10; 1Thes. 2:3; 1Pet. 2:1,22; 3:10; Rev. 2:2; 14:5; 21:8)

19. LASCIVIOUSNESS — lustful, wanton; captivating lust. (Gal. 5:19; Eph. 4:19; 1Pet. 4:3; Jude 1:4)

20. COVETOUSNESS — Selfish lusting for things, whether pleasure (food, sex), possessions or power/prestige. (Lk. 12:15; Rm. 1:29; 2 Cor. 9:5; Eph. 4:19; 5:3; Col. 3:5; 1 Thes. 2:5; 2 Pet. 2:3,14; 1Jn. 2:16)

21. THEFTS — stealing; the unlawful taking of anything material, intellectual, etc. (Ex. 20:15; Lv. 19:11; Dt. 19:14; Dt. 27:17; Ezek. 22:29; Mk. 7:22; Jn. 12:6; Eph. 4:28; 1 Pet. 4:15)

22. PERVERTING JUSTICE — perversion of what is just and right for the afflicted, especially to the stranger, fatherless or widow (Ex. 22:22-24; Dt. 27:19)

23. HATRED — Unholy bitter aversion, animosity, antagonism, resentment. (Rm. 1:29; Gal. 5:20; James 4:4)

24. VARIANCE (archaic) — contentious spirit; refusal to submit to truth, or just rulings by lawful authority. (Rm. 1:29; 1Cor. 3:3; Gal. 5:20; Titus 3:9; Dt. 17:8-13)

25. EMULATIONS — unholy zeal; selfish ambition, strife to excel at the expense of another. (Num. 12; Gal. 5:20; Phil. 2:14)

26. WRATH — Carnal turbulent, violent passions of unholy anger, indignation. (2 Cor. 12:20; Gal. 5:20; Col. 3:8)

27. STRIFE — fleshly disputations; selfish contention for superiority. (Gal. 5:20; Rm. 1:29; 13:13; 1 Cor. 1:11; 2 Cor. 12:20; Phil. 1:15; 2:24; 1Tim. 6:4; 3:9; 1 Pet. 5:5)

28. SEDITION — carnal assembly of rebellious spirit in opposition to lawful authority: fleshly factious uprising; (Num. 12; 16; Rm. 16:7; 1 Cor. 3:3; Gal. 5:20)

29. HERESIES — unholy factions holding false doctrine opposed to established fundamental truths. (Gal. 5:20; Titus 1:3)

30. SIMONY — purchasing (by money or favors) ecclesiastical offices or power. (Acts 8:18-24)

31. ENVYINGS — Craving what others have, whether pleasure, possessions, or prestige (the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life: 1 Jn. 2:16). This is often used interchangeably with jealousy, but which can be feeling that what others give belongs to you or your interest instead of someone or something else, rightly or not (the coach was jealous for the devotion some of his talented players showed to video games). (Gal. 5:21; Num. 16:3, 7; Mt. 27:18; Mk. 15:10; Rm. 1:29; Phil. 1:15; 1Tim. 6:4; Titus 3:3; 1Pet. 2:1)

32. DRUNKENNESS — the state of being drunk; under the influence of intoxicating substances which alter the senses for recreation. (Ga. 5:21; Dt. 21:20; Lk. 21:34; 1 Cor. 5:11; 6:10; Eph. 5:18; 1 Thes. 5:7)

33. REVELINGS — boisterous, indulgent festivities, carousing, loud merry-making, partying. (Gal. 5:21; Ex. 32:1-8; Rm. 13:13; 1Pet. 4:3)

34. PRIDE — haughtiness; egotism; conceit; seeing yourself better than you really are. (Mk. 7:22; Ps. 12:3; 101:5; 119:21; 123:4; 138:6; Pv. 6:17; 15:25; 16:5; 21:4,24; 28:25; Eccl. 7:8; Is. 2:12)

35. FOOLISHNESS — frivolous or irresponsible behavior. (Mk. 7:22; Prv. 12:23; 22:15; 24:9; 27:2; Eccl. 7:25; 1 Pet. 2:15)

36. EXTORTION — forced extraction of money, sex, things, by manipulation; coercion. (1 Cor. 5:11; Lk. 18:11; Mt. 23:25; 7:15)

37. REFUSING TO FORGIVE — holding a grudge, harboring personal resentment, a bitter spirit against persons due to past injuries (Lv. 19:18; Mt. 6:12-15; 18:23-35; Heb. 12:15)

38. EVIL THOUGHTS — any evil thoughts, or imaginations, including unwarranted suspicions; seeking vengeance; illicit sex fantasies; planning evil. (Mk. 7:21; Mt. 9:4; James 2:4)

39. THE ULTIMATE SIN OF DAMNATION - Rejecting the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God, and the only One who can save you from all your sins. John. 3:18, 36 - He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on Him.

"In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day" (2Thes. 1:-10).