

1 Corinthians 6:16b-17

(ESV)

16 ... For, as it is written, "The two will become one flesh."

17 But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.

Genesis 2:24

(ESV)

24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

1 Peter 2:9

(ESV)

9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Hebrews 13:15-16

(ESV)

15 Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of **praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.**

Westminster Shorter Catechism

Question 14

What is sin?

Answer: Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God.

Leviticus 5:17,

(KJV)

And if a soul sin, and commit any of these things which are forbidden to be done by the commandments of the LORD; though he wist it not, yet is he guilty, and shall bear his iniquity.

James 4:17

(KJV)

Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

James 1:15

(ESV)

15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

1 John 3:4

(KJV)

Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

1 John 5:17

(ESV)

17 All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death.

Westminster Shorter Catechism

Question 15

What was the sin whereby our first parents fell from the estate wherein they were created?

Answer: The sin whereby our first parents fell from the estate wherein they were created, was their eating the forbidden fruit.

Question 3

What do the Scriptures principally teach?

Answer: The Scriptures principally teach what man is to believe concerning God, and **what duty God requires of man.**

Paradise Lost

Book 4: Lines 720-735

Thus at thir shadie Lodge arriv'd, both stood
Both turnd, and under op'n Skie ador'd
The God that made both Skie, Air, Earth and
Heav'n

Which they beheld, the Moons resplendent Globe
And starrie Pole: Thou also mad'st the Night,
Maker Omnipotent, and thou the Day,
Which we in our appointed work imployd
Have finisht happie in our mutual help
And mutual love, the Crown of all our bliss
Ordaind by thee, and this delicious place
For us too large, where thy abundance wants
Partakers, and uncropt falls to the ground.
But thou hast promis'd from us two a Race
To fill the Earth, who shall with us extoll
Thy goodness infinite, both when we wake,
And when we seek, as now, thy gift of sleep.

**Jeremiah 44:7ff
(ESV)**

7 And now thus says the Lord God of hosts, the God of Israel: **Why do you commit this great evil against yourselves**, to cut off from you man and woman, infant and child, from the midst of Judah, leaving you no remnant?

Advice to a Prophet
BY RICHARD WILBUR

When you come, as you soon must, to the streets
of our city,
Mad-eyed from stating the obvious,
Not proclaiming our fall but begging us
In God's name to have self-pity,

Spare us all word of the weapons, their force and
range,
The long numbers that **rocket** the mind;
Our slow, unreckoning hearts will be left
behind,
Unable to fear what is too strange.

Nor shall you scare us with talk of the death of the
race.
How should we dream of this place without us?—
The sun mere fire, the leaves untroubled about
us,
A stone look on the stone's face?

Speak of the world's own change. Though we
cannot conceive
Of an undreamt thing, we know to our cost
How the dreamt cloud crumbles, the vines are
blackened by frost,
How the view alters. We could believe,

If you told us so, that the white-tailed deer will
slip
Into perfect shade, grown perfectly shy,
The lark avoid the reaches of our eye,
The jack-pine lose its knuckled grip

On the cold ledge, and every torrent burn
As Xanthus once, its gliding trout
Stunned in a twinkling. What should we be
without
The dolphin's arc, the dove's return,

These things in which we have seen ourselves and
spoken?
Ask us, prophet, how we shall call

**Our natures forth when that live tongue is all
Dispelled, that glass obscured or broken**

In which we have said the **rose of our love and
the clean
Horse of our courage**, in which beheld
The singing locust of the soul unshelled,
And all we mean or wish to mean.

Ask us, ask us whether with the **worldless rose**
Our hearts shall fail us; come demanding
Whether there shall be lofty or long standing
When the bronze annals of the oak-tree close.

8 **Why do you provoke me to anger with the
works of your hands**, making offerings to other
gods in the land of Egypt where you have come to
live, so that

you may be cut off and become a **curse and a
taunt** among all the nations of the earth?

16 **“As for the word that you have spoken to us
in the name of the Lord, we will not listen to you.**

**Deuteronomy 11:28
(ESV)**

28 and the curse, if you do not obey the
commandments of the Lord your God, but turn
aside from the way that I am commanding you
today, to **go after other gods that you have not
known.**

**Deuteronomy 27:15
(ESV)**

15 “‘Cursed be the man who makes a carved or
cast metal image, an abomination to the Lord, a
thing made by the hands of a craftsman, and sets
it up in secret.’ And all the people shall answer
and say, ‘Amen.’

**Deuteronomy 29:25-28
(ESV)**

25 Then people will say, ‘It is because they
abandoned the covenant of the Lord, the God of
their fathers, which he made with them when he
brought them out of the land of Egypt,

26 and went and served other gods and worshiped
them, gods whom they had not known and whom
he had not allotted to them.

27 *Therefore the anger of the Lord was kindled against this land, bringing upon it all the curses written in this book,*

28 *and the Lord uprooted them from their land in anger and fury and great wrath, and cast them into another land, as they are this day.'*

Hebrews 10:1-4
(ESV)

Christ's Sacrifice Once for All

1 *For since **the law has but a shadow of the good things to come** instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.*

2 *Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins?*

3 *But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year.*

4 *For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.*

Jeremiah 29:10-14
(ESV)

10 *"For thus says the Lord: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place.*

11 *For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.*

12 *Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you.*

13 *You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.*

14 *I will be found by you, declares the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven*

you, declares the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

Psalm 119:9-16
(ESV)

9
*How can a young man keep his way pure?
By guarding it **according to your word.***

10
*With my whole heart I seek you;
let me not wander from your **commandments!***

11
***I have stored up your word in my heart,
that I might not sin against you.***

12
*Blessed are you, O Lord;
teach me your statutes!*

13
***With my lips I declare
all the rules of your mouth.***

14
*In the way of your testimonies I delight
as much as in all riches.*

15
*I will meditate on your precepts
and fix my eyes on your ways.*

16
***I will delight in your statutes;
I will not forget your word.***

Psalm 51
(ESV)

1
*Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.*

2
*Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!*

3
*For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.*

4
*Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words
and blameless in your judgment.*

5
*Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.*

6

*Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,
and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.*

7

*Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.*

8

*Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.*

9

*Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.*

10

*Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.*

11

*Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.*

12

*Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.*

13

*Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.*

14

*Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,
O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your
righteousness.*

15

*O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.*

16

*For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would
give it;*

you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

17

*The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will
not despise.*

18

*Do good to Zion in your good pleasure;
build up the walls of Jerusalem;*

19

*then will you delight in right sacrifices,
in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.*

Ferguson

“A basic mark of spiritual maturity is a healthy objectivity—seeing the world through biblical lenses, conforming our lives to God’s revealed

will, his wisdom and his glory, not being driven by inner needs or compulsions” (p. 93).

J. C. Ryle, in *Holiness*

He that wishes to attain right views about Christian holiness, must begin by examining the vast and solemn subject of sin. He must dig down very low if he would build high. A mistake here is most mischievous. Wrong views about holiness are generally traceable to wrong views about human corruption...

The plain truth is that a right knowledge of sin lies at the root of all saving Christianity. Without it such doctrines as justification, conversion, sanctification, are “words and names” which convey non meaning to the mind.