



What's so 'original' about sin?

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Romans 5.12

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned.



Where did sin start?

- Isa 14.12: 'Helel ben Shakhar' (Latin translation, 'lucifer') – fallen from heaven to earth (erets)
- Eze 28.14-17: was at Eden with anointed guardian Kerub (Cherub) and on God's holy mountain – thrown down to earth (erets)
- Rev 12.1: 'dragon' fought against Michael in heaven – thrown down to earth

'Original sin': Historical Views



- Augustine: 'original sin' is sin of the human race – hereditary transmission of sin
- Pelagius: humans born as Adam, sinless – sin spread by example
- Thomas Aquinas: sin is either mortal or venial – supernatural gifts are lost but natural gifts are not lost
- Martin Luther: corruption of the whole person, lower nature and higher powers
- John Calvin: humans inherit Adam's guilt – everything is corrupt, intellect, heart and will

'Original sin': Historical Views



- Roman Catholic: guilt not inherited – humans inherit fallen nature
- Eastern Orthodox: sin original in Devil – humans share Adam's judgement not guilt
- Methodism: focuses on the corruption of human nature
- Seventh-day Adventism: no inherent guilt but humans share the corrupted nature – less concerned about 'original sin' but more on type of human nature, pre-fall or post-fall

Sin's Complexity: Biblical Data [3S]

1

FALL STORY
(Gen 3-4)

2

Sin: Spiritual
disruption (3.8-
10)

3

Sin: Social or
societal
disruption
(3.12-13; 4)

4

Sin: Setting
destruction
(3.17-19)

Sin's Complexity: Biblical Data [4T]

HEBREW SIN TERMS

Khattat: legal (offering + forgiveness)

Awon: relational, horizontal (offering + forgiveness)

Pesha: relational, vertical (no offering but there is forgiveness)

Yad Rom: rejection, deliberate defiance (no sacrifice, no forgiveness)

- Num 15.30-31 (high hand = blasphemy) – Num 33.3
- Matt 12.31-32 (unforgivable sin = blasphemy)

Sin's Complexity: Biblical Data [4D]



NT DEFINITIONS

1 John 3.4 – legal (sin committed)

Jas 4.17 – legal (sin by omission)

Rom 14.23 – religious (faith absent)

John 16.8-9 – relational (vertical)

Sin's Complexity: Biblical Data [3P]

Rom 6.23 –
penalty of sin

Rom 7.14-25 –
presence and
power of sin

Something to think about

Sin did not begin with humans or on earth

Sin is an extremely complex issue

God-like powers (volition, intelligence, creativity) granted at creation were not removed because of sin

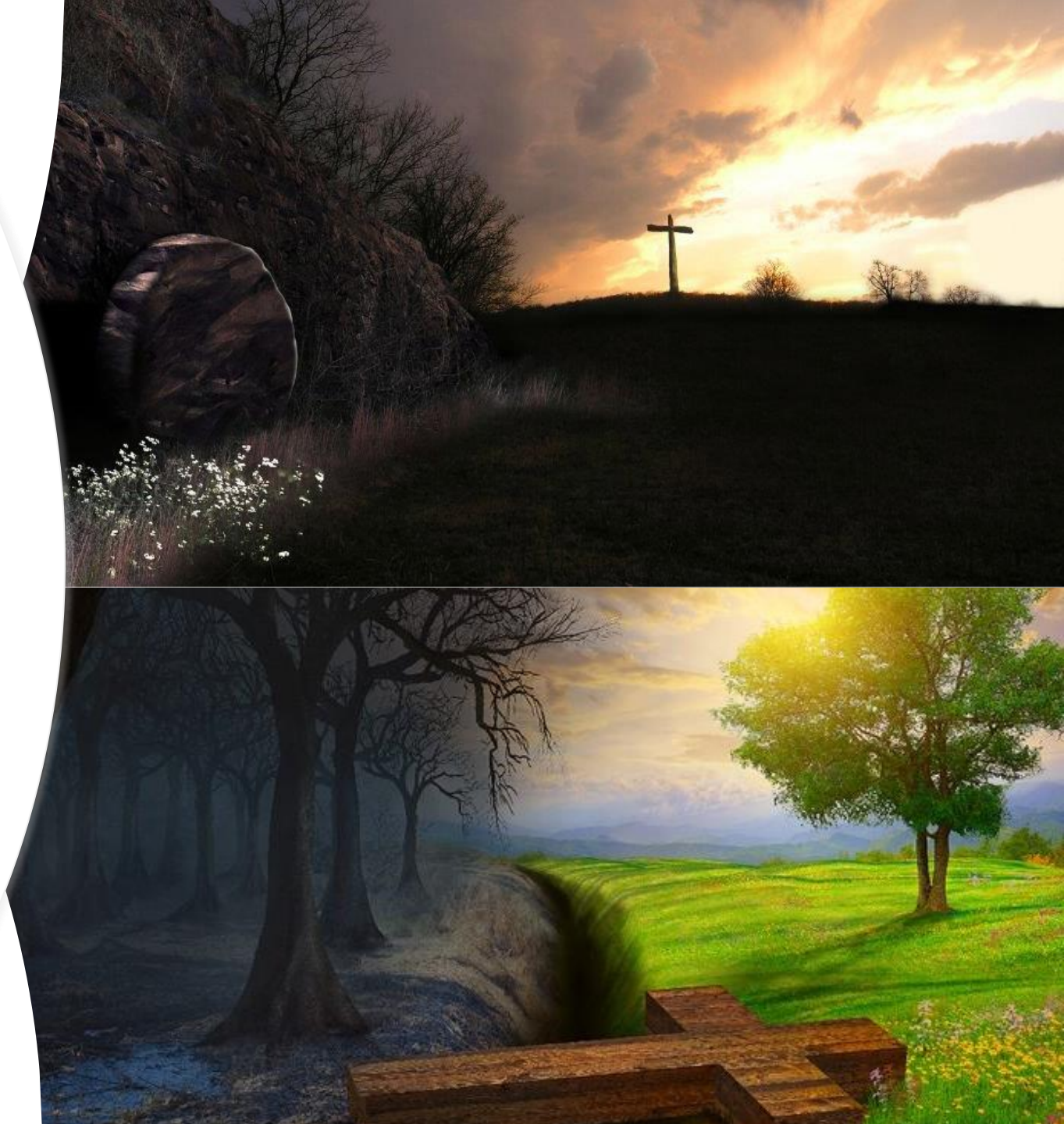
Spiritual, societal and environmental disruptions became the 'new normal' because of sin


Our 'sins' are not the same as Adam's 'sin', but humans share in the disruptions caused by sin

We possess a fallen nature but do not share Adam's guilt

The Cross

- Connects heaven and earth
- Connects pre-fall and post-fall worlds



A sunset scene over a body of water. The sun is a large, bright yellow circle on the right side of the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and water. The sky is filled with large, billowing white and yellow clouds. The water in the foreground is dark, with a small, dark rock or island visible on the left side. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

~Numbers 6:24-26

”The LORD bless
you and keep you;
the LORD make his
face shine upon you
and be gracious to
you; the LORD
turn his face toward
you and give you
peace.”