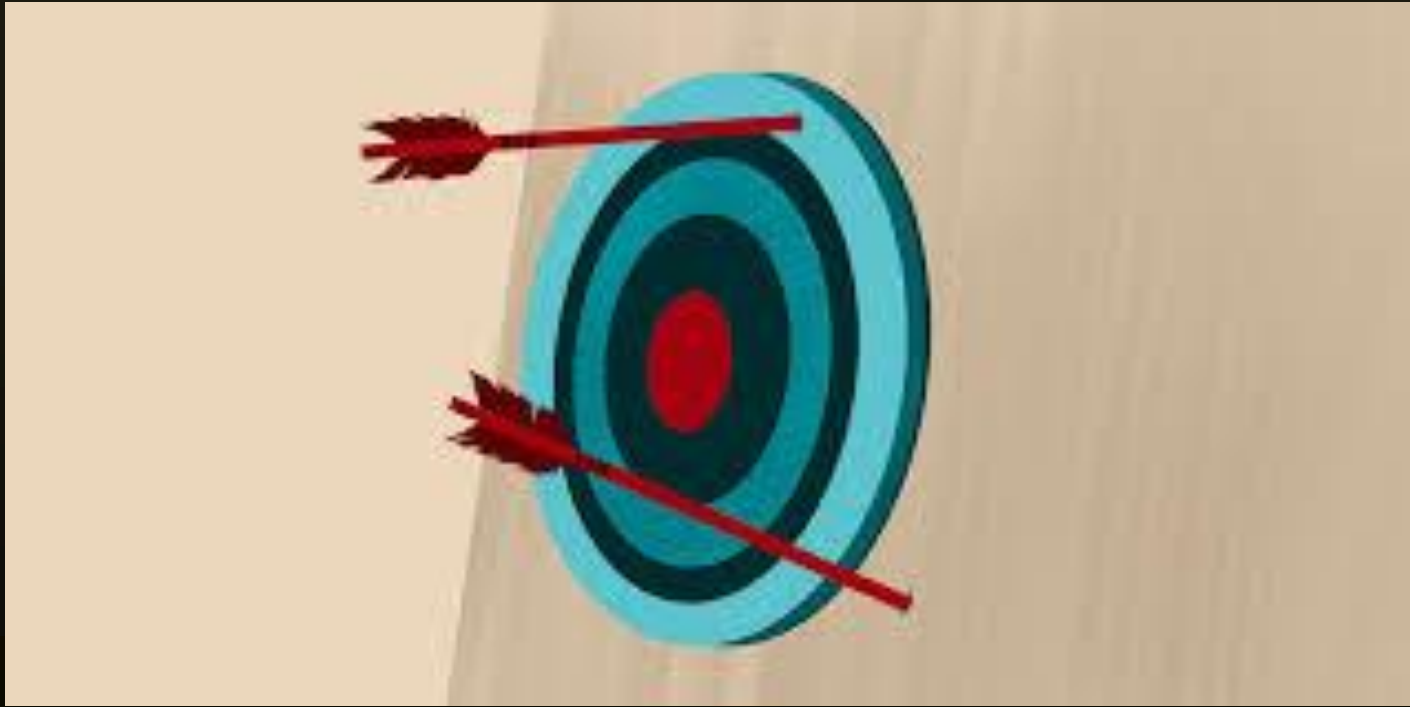


The Nature of SIN



James 1:12-16

James 1:12-16

¹² Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. ¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death. ¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren.

Sin Is Serious Matter

- Sin separates man from God (**Isa. 59:1-2**)

“Behold, the Lord’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.”
- We must understand nature of sin & avoid it
 - **Hebrews 3:12-13** Sin is deceptive & pervasive
 - **2 Corinthians 2:11** Result of Satan’s devices

Must See God's View of Sin

- God abhors, hates & is sickened by sin
 - *Deut. 25:16* An abomination to the Lord God
 - *Psa. 11:5* “His soul hates”
 - *Prov. 6:16* “Lord hates...abomination to Him”
 - *Zech. 8:17* “All these are things that I hate”
 - *Lk. 16:15* “An abomination in sight of God”
 - *Rev. 3:16* “I will vomit you out of My mouth”
- Sin is not just a technical violation of law
- Sin is an affront to holy nature of God

What Is Sin?

- “All unrighteousness is sin” (**1 John 5:17**)
- Sin is transgression of God’s law (**1 John 3:4**)
 - **Rom. 3:19-20** O.T. law gave knowledge of sin
 - **Rom. 7:7-13** Law not sin itself, but defined it
 - **James 1:21-26** Perfect law defines & purifies
- Action not of faith is sin (**Romans 14:23**)
- Failing to do known right is sin (**James 4:17**)
- Planning evil & seeking chance (**Matt. 5:28**)

What Sin Is NOT

- Not the temptation (*James 1:14-15*)
- Not just thought of wrong (*Jas. 1:14-15; 4:1*)
- Not failure to have all knowledge from the start as child of God (*Col. 1:9-11*)
- Not failure to serve God in ways we had no ability or expectation to so serve (*Heb. 5:12-14* cf. *1 Pet. 2:1-2*)
 - *Philippians 3:12-16* Pleasing God as we press on to the goal
- Not the failure to serve in ways no opportunity has been presented (*Luke 10:29-37*)
- Not the failure to be at level of perfection in growth of Christian character (*2 Peter 1:5-8*)
- Not product of human inability to do right (*1 Cor. 10:13*)