
DEFINITION OF SINS

GALATIANS 5:19-21

OBJECTIVE:

Here are some definitions of the sins mentioned on Galatians 5:19-21

SIN LIST:

1. **SEXUAL IMMORALITY** (fornication KJV), Greek – n(porneia) – sex outside of the marriage relationship. Includes: adultery, homosexuality, masturbation, pre-marital sex, etc.

2. **IMPURITY** (uncleanness KJV), Greek – n(akatharsia) – denotes those things that make us impure in a moral sense. It means to be dirty and filthy; to be infested with every kind of unclean, immoral, dirty, and polluted behavior. It is the most immoral behavior imaginable. It is unbridled lust turned loose. (i.e. lust, sexual fantasies, pornography, etc.)

3. **DEBAUCHERY** (sensuality NAS, licentiousness RSV, lasciviousness KJV), Greek – n(asel-geia) – denotes absence of moral restraint, lewdness, indecency. Used to describe the life-style of the people of Sodom and Gomorrah. Webster: “to corrupt by sensuality of intemperance, to pervert. A period of excessive indulgence in sensual pleasures, esp. in drinking.” Dirty dancing, immodesty, gluttony, overindulgence. Debauchery; sensuality; lust; running wild; licentiousness; wantonness; homosexuality; lasciviousness; living a wild, partying, and immoral life.

4. **IDOLATRY** (worship of idols, false gods TEV Phillips), Greek – n(eidololatria) [lit. – service to idols] – putting something or someone other than God as number one in your life. Both the worship of false gods and the failure to have a right relationship with God. Any person who does not worship God is worshipping some idol, and almost everything upon earth can become an idol and consume the heart and passion of a man.
 - a. What do we idolize? Job, school, family, money, popularity, self, etc.
 - b. How can you tell who or what someone’s idol is? What their life revolves around.

5. **WITCHCRAFT/SORCERY** (spiritism LB), Greek – n(pharmakia) – denotes the use of drugs to produce an unnatural state of mind, sometimes accompanied by incantations and spells appealing to the occult powers. In the present context, it would include all forms of sorcery including astrology, palm reading, seances, fortune telling, crystals, and other forms of witchcraft.

6. **HATRED** (quarrels NEB, feuds JB), Greek – n(echtra) – denotes attitudes and actions pertaining to enemies. The opposite of love (agape). It is the hatred that lingers and is held for a long, long time; a hatred that is deep within.

7. DISCORD (strife RSV, a contentious temper NEB), Greek – n(eris) – the expression of hatred or enmity toward another, bad temper. Slander. It means that a person fights against another person in order to get something: position, promotion, property, honor, recognition. He deceives, doing whatever has to be done to get what he is after.

8. JEALOUSY - Greek – n(zelos) – Webster: “mental uneasiness due to suspicion or fear of rivalry; envious resentment against a successful rival or the possessor of any coveted advantage.” Wanting and desiring to have what someone else has. It may be material things, recognition, honor, or position.

9. FITS OF RAGE (bad temper Phillips), Greek – n(thumos) – denotes an outburst of hot anger, wrath, very similar to discord, but focusing more on the heart condition that produces the outburst. Angry tempers; fiery anger; intense fits of anger.

10. SELFISH AMBITION - Greek – n(epitheiai) – denotes a person who, being so consumed with self interest, always ends up in disputes and arguments; being consumed with self, pride, defensiveness.

11. DISSENSION - Greek – n(dichostasia) – denotes racism, a prejudiced attitude, bigotry, etc.; deciding that you or your group is better than another. Disputes, divisions, rebellion, standing against others, splitting off from others.

12. FACTIONS (heresies KJV), Greek – n(hairesis) – denotes the forming of a group of sect based on false teaching, with no regard to the “the truth” usually a doctrinal issue. Self-righteousness.

13. ENVY - Greek – n(phthonos) – denotes the feeling of displeasure produced by witnessing or hearing of the advantage or prosperity of others, resentment, malice, etc. The word means that a person covets what someone else has, covets it so much that he wants it even if it means that it has to be taken away from the other person. He may even wish that the other person did not have it or had not received it.

14. DRUNKENNESS - Greek – n(methe) – denotes drunkenness, habitual intoxication, either getting drunk or the habitual use of alcohol or drugs. Getting drunk (methais) is to take in-toxicating drink or drugs to affect the senses and faculties; to become intoxicated for the purpose of lust or pleasure; to seek to be tipsy or intoxicated; to seek to loosen moral restraint for the sake of bodily pleasure.

15. ORGIES (wild parties LB, carousing NASB), Greek – n(komos) – a drunken, licentious revelry; any uncontrolled indulgence, also carousing, a drinking bout or party. This word graphically describes a life of uncontrolled license, indulgence, and pleasure; taking part in wild parties or in drinking parties; lying around indulging in feeding the lusts of the flesh; orgies.

16. AND THE LIKE... (other things like these TEV), Greek – adj(homoios) – involves anything else that resembles or is any way “like” the above mentioned things, including all variations of the sins listed. Deceit, pridefulness, independence, hypocrisy, stubbornness.