



SIN UNTO DEATH

1. Definition

- It is the final stage in which God removes the person from the earth who is totally alienated from Him.
- It is not a particular sin; but it is, rather, a mental attitude of total indifference to and rebellion against the will and purpose of God.
- Only God can discern the true nature of a person's mind, attitude, or volition.
- Only God knows whether a person is actually implacable and deserving of physical death.

2. The principle of “sin unto death”

- I Jn 5:16
If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin which does not lead to death, he will ask, and He will give him life for those who commit sin not leading to death. There is sin leading to death. I do not say that he should pray about that.
- Ps 118:17-18
17 I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.
18 The LORD has chastened me severely, but He has not given me over to death.
- Ezek 18:21-32
21 "But if a wicked man turns from all his sins which he has committed, keeps all My statutes, and does what is lawful and right, he shall surely live; he shall not die.
22 "None of the transgressions which he has committed shall be remembered against him; because of the righteousness which he has done, he shall live.
23 "Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?" says the Lord GOD, "and not that he should turn from his ways and live?
24 "But when a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and commits iniquity, and does according to all the abominations that the wicked man does, shall he live? All the righteousness which he has done shall not be remembered; because of the unfaithfulness of which he is guilty and the sin which he has committed, because of them he shall die.
25 "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' Hear now, O house of Israel, is it not My way which is fair, and your ways which are not fair?"

- 26 "When a righteous man turns away from his righteousness, commits iniquity, and dies in it, it is because of the iniquity which he has done that he dies.
- 27 "Again, when a wicked man turns away from the wickedness which he committed, and does what is lawful and right, he preserves himself alive.
- 28 "Because he considers and turns away from all the transgressions which he committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die.
- 29 "Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' O house of Israel, is it not My ways which are fair, and your ways which are not fair?
- 30 "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways," says the Lord GOD. "Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin.
- 31 "Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel?
- 32 "For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies," says the Lord GOD. "Therefore turn and live!"

3. Sin unto death is not

- First, sin which is confessed. - 1 Jhn 1:9; 1 Cor. 11:31; Ps. 32:5; Ps. 38.
- Second, sin which is discontinued. - Heb. 12:1; Eze. 18:21-32.
- Finally, the person who responds positively to divine discipline. - Heb. 12:6,11-15.

4. Examples of "sin unto death"

- The case of "lying to the Holy Spirit" (Ananias). Acts 5:1-10.
- The case of persistent carnality while sitting at the Lord's Table, 1 Cor. 11:30,31.
- The case of disobedience to the Word of God. 1 Chron.10:13-14; 1 Sam. 13:9-14. King Saul did not kill Agag although directly ordered to do so by God; he insisted on personally offering sacrifices in the place of divinely appointed priests; and he consulted a witch, itself a capital offense.
- The case of self-righteousness and dependence on man which was perpetuated (case of Hezekiah). Isa. 38.
- The case of apostasy on the part of a believer. Num. 31:8; 1 Tim. 1:19,20.

5. Summary

This sin only God judges and our part is to keep our heart soft and teachable.