

I. Definition and Description:

A. Definition:

1. The **old sin nature** (OSN) in man is his natural trend toward sins, toward human good, and toward evil. (Eph. 2:3)
2. It was created by Adam who in his free will turned away from God and in disobedience to God ate of the “**tree of the knowledge of good and evil** (TOTKOGAE).” (Gen. 2:8, 9, 16, 17; 3:6)
3. Adam’s disobedience, **Adam’s Original Sin** (AOS), produced in him a permanent corrupted **new sin nature** (NSN) (Gen. 3:6, 7; Rom. 5:12)

B. Description:

1. This sinful nature passes from generation to generation genetically through the male chromosomes in procreation. We call this corrupted nature the **Old Sin Nature** (OSN) since it is as old as Adam. (Rom. 5:12, 14, 16-19, 21a)
2. While the woman, Adam’s wife, sinned first and developed a sin nature of her own, her sinful nature did not pass on genetically because apparently the chromosomes with the genetic code for her sinful nature are not transmitted in in procreation (a process known as polar bodies). (1 Timothy 2:13, 14)
3. At each new birth, **Adam’s Original Sin** is imputed to the OSN of the new born child, so that every child is born physically alive but spiritually dead. (Rom. 5:16, 18)
4. The OSN is part of every cell structure of the body which is why Paul calls it the “**flesh**.” (Gal. 5:13, 17, 19, 24; 6:8; Eph. 2:3; cf. Psalm 51:5)
5. The OSN is not part of our immortal soul, our invisible essence, created by God. (1 Thess. 5:23; Gen. 1:26, 27; 2:7)
6. However, the OSN wars against the soul, and the soul can be infected by the OSN. (1 Pet. 2:11; cf. James 4:1-4)
7. The OSN has **an area of weakness** and **a trend toward licentiousness** which produce personal sins: mental sins, verbal sins, and overt sins which violate the laws of God. (Rom. 8:8; James 1:14, 15; Heb. 12:1; 1 John 3:4; 5:17)
8. The OSN has **an area of strength** and **a trend toward asceticism** which produce human good, works of the flesh, and evil which are unacceptable to God. (Isa. 64:6; 1 Cor. 3:12-15; Heb. 9:14)
9. The OSN has a motivator called the “**lusts**.” (Rom. 6:12b) There are at least nine lusts forming a lust pattern. (Eph. 2:3; Gal 5:16; 1 John 2:16; 4:22; James 1:14, 15)
 - a. **Ego lust** - 1 John 1:16, 17; James 3:1; 4:3; Phil. 1:17; 2:3; 1 Cor. 10:12-14
 - b. **Power lust** - James 2:2-4
 - c. **Approbation lust** - 1 Thess. 2:4-6
 - d. **Materialism lust** - James 4:2
 - e. **Monetary lust** - 1 Tim. 6:10; 2 Tim. 3:2
 - f. **Wander lust** - Prov. 17:24
 - g. **Wonder lust** - Matt. 12:38, 39; Mk.8:11, 12; Lk. 11:16, 29; 2 Thess. 2:8-12;

- h. **Pleasure lust** - Phil. 3:18, 19; 2 Tim. 3:4; James 4:1, 3
- i. **Sexual lust** - Rom. 1:24-32

II. Biblical nomenclature-19 descriptive titles:

- A. The word “*sin*” in the singular with or without the definite article is usually a reference to the OSN. (Rom. 5:12b, 21; 6:12-14, 16-18, 20, 22; 7:8, 9, 11, 17; Rom. 7:20, 21, 23, 25 (Rom. 8:3; 1 Cor. 15:56)
 - 1. Exception: Sin in the singular can refer to AOS. (Rom. 5:12a; cf. 5:17a, 18a, 19a)
 - 2. Exception: Sin in the singular can refer to a personal sin. (Rom. 5:13, 23; Heb. 12:1; James 1:13)
- B. Our *body of sin*. (Rom. 6:6).
- C. *Corruptible man*. (Rom. 1:23)
- D. *The body of this death*. (Rom. 7:24)
- E. *The law of sin and of death*. (Rom. 7:25; 8:2)
- F. *The flesh*. (Rom. 7:14; 8:3, 7; Gal. 5:13, 17, 19, 24; 6:8; Eph. 2:3)
- G. *Fleshly mind*. (Col. 2:18)
- H. *Carnal*. (1 Cor. 3:1, 3; 2 Cor. 1:12; 1 Pet. 2:11)
- I. *Mortal body*. (Rom. 6:12)
- J. *The old man*. (Eph. 4:22; Col. 3:9; Rom. 6:6)
- K. *Corruptible seed*. (1 Pet. 2:23)
- L. *Wretched man*. (Rom. 7:24)
- M. *The body of our humility*. (Phil. 3:21)
- N. *A natural body*. (1 Cor. 15:54)
- O. *The corruptible* (body), *perishable* (body). 1 Cor. 15:42, 50)
- P. *Iniquity*. (Psalm 51:5)
- Q. *The spirit of a man*. (1 Cor. 2:11)
- R. *The principle of evil*. (Rom. 7:21)
- S. *By nature, children of wrath*. (Eph. 2:3)

III. Satan is the original sinner and the sponsor of all sin:

- A. Helel, who became known as Satan, was the anointed cherub in the presence of God, and he disobeyed God in his pride. (Ezekiel 28:13-16a with Isaiah 14:12-14)
- B. He was cast out of heaven. (Isaiah 14:12, 15-17; Ezekiel 28:16b-19; Rev. 12:7-9)
- C. He attempted to destroy God’s plan for creation by taking the form of a serpent and lying to the woman God had built from one of Adam’s ribs. (Gen. 2:21-25; 3:1-5; John 8:44)

IV. The introduction and perpetuation of the OSN in human history:

- A. The woman believed the lie of Satan, that is the serpent, and disobeyed God by eating of “*the tree of the knowledge of good and evil*.” (Gen. 3:6a)
- B. Adam knowingly disobeyed God and also ate of that tree. (Gen. 3:6b- 19)
- C. The woman was deceived, but Adam sinned knowingly and brought condemnation on the entire human race. (1 Tim. 2:12, 15; Rom. 5:12, 16a, 17a, 18a, 19a; 1 Cor. 15:22)

- D. Adam and his wife made a futile attempt to cover their sin with fig leaves. (Gen. 3:7) This was a failure to assume responsibility. (Gen. 3:12, 13)
- E. Adam's sin of disobedience created in him a **permanent sin nature**, we call this **the old sin nature**, OSN. (Eph. 2:3)
- F. As a result, Satan became the ruler of man and the whole earth. (John 12:31; 14:30; 2 Cor. 4:4; Eph. 2:2; 1 John 3:8; 5:19)

V. The exception to the perpetuation of the OSN:

- A. When the 23 male chromosomes combine with the 23 female chromosomes in the ovum in conception, the genetic OSN is transmitted and contaminates the fetus, so that every child is born physically alive but spiritually dead. (Jude 1:19)
- B. All cells in our human bodies are contaminated by a genetic OSN except for one female ovum, apparently, which is pure just prior to fertilization, a process known as **polar bodies** in meiosis.
- C. Although the virgin Mary had an OSN, she did not transmit that genetic code to her Son, Jesus Christ. (2 Cor. 5:21)
- D. The virgin birth eliminated the 23 male chromosomes, contaminated by the OSN, which were replaced by the Holy Spirit in fertilization. (Matt. 1:18, 20; Luke 1:35; cf. The Doctrine of the Virgin Birth)
- E. The result of the virgin birth included the following:
 - 1. There was no genetic formation of an OSN in the human body of Jesus Christ. (1 John 2:1; 3:5)
 - 2. Therefore, there was no possibility of the imputation of AOS from the justice of God. (2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 7:26)
 - 3. Jesus never committed any personal sins. (Isa. 53:9; Heb. 4:15; 1 Pet. 1:19; 2:22)
- F. Because Jesus Christ is the second member of the Trinity, perfect and undiminished deity in essence, and true humanity through the virgin birth, possessing no OSN and no imputation of AOS; subsequently, He was qualified to go to the cross and pay for all sins once and for all time. (John 1:29; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Pet. 2:24; 1 John 2:2; Heb. 10:10)
- G. Therefore, while Jesus Christ was hanging on the cross, all personal sins of the human race, historical and eschatological sins, as well as the woman's sin in the garden and Adam's original sin (AOS), were collected and judicially imputed to Jesus Christ (1 Pet. 2:24) and judged by God the Father. (Isa. 53:4-12; Cor. 5:21)
- H. This work of God becomes the basis of our salvation through faith alone in Christ alone. (John 5:28, 29; Acts 16:31; Eph. 2:8, 9)

VI. What happens to the OSN at salvation?

- A. At the moment a person believes in the Lord Jesus Christ, God's divine justice imputes His righteousness to the new believer establishing a grace channel for blessings from the justice of God. (Rom. 1:17; 3:21, 22; 1 Cor. 1:30; 2 Cor. 5:21; Eph. 1:3; 1 Pet 2:24a)

- B. At the instant of salvation, the new believer is said to be **regenerated**, that is **born again** (Lit. born from above) and **spiritually alive**. (John 3:3, 5-7; 1 Cor.2:15; 3:3; Gal. 6:1; Titus 3:5)
- C. At regeneration, **the baptism of the Holy Spirit** enters the new believer **into union with Christ** which **overrides the ruling power** of the OSN over human life. (Rom. 6:3, 5, 6; Gal. 3:27; 1 Cor. 12:13)
- D. This is a **positional function**; and as a result of this **positional truth**, we have the possibility of moment-by-moment experiential rejection and renunciation of the OSN's sovereignty over human life. (Rom. 7:13-25)

VII. What happens to the OSN after salvation?

- A. While **the baptism of the Holy Spirit** enters believers into **union with Christ**, the Holy Spirit **simultaneously indwells** these believers, giving them a **new spiritual nature**, and **filling them with His Spirit** which overrides the OSN. (Rom. 7:6; Rom. 8:1-16; 1 Cor. 3:16; 15; 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 4:23, 24; 5:18; Col. 3:10; James 4:5)
- B. While **(1) the baptism of the Holy Spirit, (2) the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, and (3) the new nature** are the permanent possessions of every believer, **the filling of the Holy Spirit** is rendered inoperative when believers sin. (1 John 1:8; 2:1b, 2a)
- C. When believers sin, they are again under the domination of their OSN. (Rom. 6:12-14)
- D. The recovery of the **filling of the Holy Spirit** is coterminous with **confession of any personal sins**. (1 John 1:9; 1 Cor. 11:31; Rom. 8:4, 13b; Psa. 25:11, 18; 32:5; Psa. 51:2, 3)
- E. The Christian life is lived moment by moment under the filling of the Holy Spirit, which maintains **fellowship with God**. (Rom. 8:14; Gal. 5:18a; 1 John 1:6, 7)
- F. While all sins were paid for by Jesus Christ on the cross, believer's **human good**, (works of the flesh), and **evil practices** will be judged at "**the judgment seat of Christ**." (1 Cor. 3:8-15; Rom. 14:10-12; 2 Cor. 5:10)
- G. **The works**, that is, **human good and evil** produced by unregenerate human beings will be judged by Jesus Christ at the "**great white throne judgment**." (John 5:22, 27-30; Rev. 20:11-15)

VIII. The OSN cannot please God:

- A. The OSN is hostile toward God. (Rom. 8:7)
- B. The OSN cannot please God. (Rom. 8:8)
- C. The OSN has an affinity for false doctrine. (Mark 7:6-9; Rom. 1:21, 22; 1 Tim. 1:3, 4; 2 Tim. 4:3, 4)
- D. There is always some overt agency or system of thought enticing the lusts of a believer's OSN to adopt the cosmic good and evil and mistakenly call it "Christianity." (Isa. 64:6; 2 Cor. 10:5; Eph. 6:11-13; Phil. 3:18, 19; Col. 2:4, 8; Heb. 12:1)

IX. The OSN is not part of the resurrection body:

- (Rom. 7:24, 25a; Phil. 3:20, 21; 1 John 3:2, 3; 1 Cor. 15:51-54)