

02 – KINDS OF TONGUES AND SIN

- ✓ We've been discussing contradictions in the Bible. I Said: Sometimes people see contradictions (where there are none) because they don't understand that the Bible talks about **different kinds** of the same thing.
- ✓ There are **2 Kinds** of knowledge, righteousness, goodness, suffering, testing, and tongues. There's ...
 - ❖ **3 kinds** of life, death, faith, and baptism
 - ❖ **4 kinds** of love and confession
 - ❖ **6 kinds** of sin
 - ❖ **9 kinds** of prayer – (and that's just a partial list of "kinds")

2.) Two Kinds of Tongues

- ✓ If you're not familiar with what the Bible teaches about tongues, it's easy to see this one as a contradiction. In one place the Bible says that tongues are for everybody. In another place it says that tongues aren't for everybody. How do you reconcile that? Easy. There are two kinds of tongues. One is for everybody, and the other isn't.

a.) There's a **prayer language** that every believer can have. (Mk 16:17, 1 Cor. 14:5 ESV.) This is you speaking to God.

b.) But then there's a **Gift of the Spirit** that's *also* called "tongues". (This kind of tongues goes the other direction. It's God speaking through you to the church – 1 Cor. 12:30).



- ✓ People get confused when they don't realize there are two kinds of tongues. They'll see someone **praying in tongues** in a church service and say, "Stop that! Paul said tongues in the church need to be interpreted!" (1 Cor. 14:28)
- ✓ But Paul wasn't talking about your **prayer language** in that verse. He was talking about God giving a **message** to the people through you.

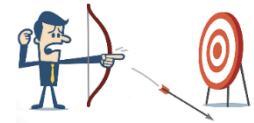
- ✓ Think About It: If God's trying to deliver a message to the people through you, then of *course*, it would need to be interpreted. (But no one needs an interpretation of my *personal* worship and prayer.)

3.) Six Kinds of Sin

- ✓ There are several different words used for sin. We *assume* they're all referring to the same thing. But they're actually quite different. The first 3 are all going to come from one verse.

Leviticus 16:21 – "And Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over it all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their **transgressions** and all their **sins** ..."

a.) **Sin** – "To miss the mark or fall short".



- ✓ God set a standard for people to live by. Unfortunately, we all **fall short** of that standard. That's called sin. (Ro. 3:23 – "For all have sinned and fallen short ...")

b.) **Transgression** – "The overstepping of a boundary."

- ✓ God "drew a line in the sand" and said "Thou shalt not". You may or may not know what God said about it, but you "transgress" when you cross that line.



c.) **Iniquity** – "Inherited weaknesses or tendencies toward sin."

Exo. 20:5 – "... I, the Lord your God am a jealous God, **visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children** unto the third and fourth generation ..."

- ✓ Does this mean that God punishes you for your parents' sin? No. Ezekiel plainly says, "The son will **not** bear the punishment for the sins of the father" (Ezk. 18:20).
- ✓ So, what does it mean when it says that God will "visit" the parents' iniquity on the children? He's saying that the parents' **weaknesses**

will be **passed down** to the children. (I've seen this in so many families. If the dad struggles with an addiction, there's a good chance that his kids will struggle with that same addiction.)

- ✓ Now listen, you can break that cycle! Both Bev and I came from families with a history of alcohol addiction. But we chose to not go that way, and it stopped with us. (Neither of our kids had any inclination to go that way. It can stop with you!)
- ✓ So, that's our definition for "iniquities". **An iniquity is a weakness, a "bent" in a sinful direction, a propensity toward a certain sin.** According to Exodus 20:5, you can inherit these "bents" from your parents.
- ✓ Some Christians call these "generational curses". Personally, I avoid that term. (A lot of what people teach about "generational curses" just isn't Scriptural. So, I won't use the term. I don't want people thinking that I subscribe to everything some people teach.) But you can't deny that things are passed down in families. That's biblical.

The Next Three Types of Sin

Psalm 19:12-13 – "Who can understand his **errors**? Forgive my **secret faults**. Keep me back from **presumptuous sins**; let them not have dominion over me."

- d.) **Errors** – The Amplified Bible calls them "lapses or **omissions**". (We used to call these "sins of omission". They're things you should have done, that you didn't do.)

James 4:17 – "When **someone knows the right thing** to do and **doesn't do it**, to him it is sin." (You knew to pray, but you didn't pray. You know to share your faith, but you never do. Those are sins of *omission*.)

- e.) **Secret Faults** – This isn't talking about sins that you hide from people – (like, "I'm keeping this porn addiction a secret.") No. **These sins are actually hidden from you**. (Look at some other translations.)

Amp – "**unconscious**, unintended sins".

NET – "... sins I am **unaware** of."

CEV – "Forgive me when I sin **without knowing it**."

- ✓ In our day, we'd call these "blind spots". (Everybody around you sees a problem in your life. But for whatever reason, you can't see it.) 1 John 1:9 doesn't really apply here. It's hard to *confess* something when you don't know you're doing it. In Psalm 19, David asked God to **forgive him** for his unknown sins. (Also 1 John 1:7)
- f.) **Presumptuous Sins** – These sins are intentional. (We could call these sins of commission. You *meant* to do it. You knew what God said about it, but it didn't matter. You did it anyway ...)
- ✓ Notice, he doesn't just ask for forgiveness for it. He also asks for deliverance. (Phil. 2:13)

How Do We Deal with Iniquities (Inherited Weaknesses)?

- ✓ There are three main Scriptures in the New Testament that deal with iniquities. (After each Scripture, I'm going to give you a statement.)

Titus 2:14 – "(Jesus) Who gave himself for us, that he might **redeem** us from all iniquity." (The Cross included iniquities, too.)

- ✓ Statement: **He paid the price** (for you to be free).

Acts 3:26 – "God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, by **turning** every one of you away from his iniquities."

- ✓ Statement: **He points the way**.

2 Tim. 2:19 – "Let everyone that names the name of Christ **depart** from iniquity."

- ✓ Statement: **You have to depart**.

- ✓ If you put the three statements together, this is what you get. *"He paid the price, He points the way, YOU have to depart".*
- ✓ When it comes to iniquities (or what some call "generational curses"), people leave the impression that *you* don't have to do anything! Just come for prayer!
- ✓ So, people show up, get in line, and think, "I'll just stand here, and this preacher will fix me." *The Bible doesn't agree.* (Don't get me wrong. I believe in prayer. Being prayed for is *good*! There's power in prayer! But there's still something *you* need to do. You need to *turn* from iniquity and *resist it* moment by moment.)

Levels of Sin

- ✓ Another thing you often hear in Christian circles is, "There's no such thing as 'big sins' or 'little sins'. All sin is equal in God's sight." That's not true. The Bible refers to *levels* of sin in several places.

*Jn 19:11 – "The one who handed me over to you is guilty of a **greater sin**"*

*Ezk. 8:6, 13, 15 – "They are doing **great abominations** ... You will see **greater abominations** ... You will see **still greater abominations**."*

- ✓ Some sins are called "abominations", some aren't. Some sins called for the death penalty, and others didn't. One sin is "unforgivable" and is called an "eternal sin". (You couldn't possibly say the unpardonable sin is "equal in the eyes of God" to stealing a pack of bubble gum.) Is all sin equal in the eyes of God? No. Where do people get the idea that all sin is equal? From this verse:

James 2:9-10 (CEB, ESVUS) – "But when you show favoritism, you are committing a sin, and by that same law you are exposed as a law-breaker. For whoever keeps the whole law, but fails in one point, has become accountable for all of it."

- ✓ That didn't say that all sin is equal. It said that it just takes one sin – big or small – to make you a law-breaker. Then, you need Jesus.