

# How Does Knowledge of Original Sin Change My Life?

## Easter Sunday- Notes

March 31, 2013

Christians believe that God created humans in his image....

Christianity contends that human beings are hopelessly lost and we cannot save ourselves.

Evidence? Our human history full of torture, murder, war, rape, sexual depravity... all in a 24 hour news cycle.

### Video- Sounds of Abortion

Clay Jones- professor at Biola University and Talbot seminary

Blog- **We Don't Take Human Evil Seriously so We Don't Understand Why We Suffer**  
([www.clayjones.net](http://www.clayjones.net))

"I first began to study human evil so that no one could disqualify me for having glossed over the immense sufferings that people perpetrate on each other. I didn't want anyone to say that I had gotten God out of the problem of evil the easy way: by making evil seem less serious than it really is. But as I read about one sickening rape or torture or murder after another, something strange happened: I was struck that evil *is* human.<sup>1</sup> I realized that heinous evils weren't the doings of a few deranged individuals or even of hundreds or of thousands, but were done by humankind *en mass*. I studied continent after continent, country after country, torture after torture, murder after murder and was staggered to discover that I hadn't taken Scripture seriously enough: humankind *is* desperately wicked.

But, curiously, I found that the study of human evil, although gut-wrenching, is good... The renowned Bible expositor D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones was right: "We must contemplate men in sin until we are horrified, until we are alarmed, until we are desperate about them, until we pray for them, until having realized the marvel of our own deliverance from that terrible state, we are lost in a sense of wonder, love and praise."<sup>2</sup>

Romans 5:1-11

Romans 6:1-2, 11-14

Romans 8:1-9

### Attitudes and habits that will help us avoid sin:

**1. Consider the choices before you-** when it comes to moral choices, we need to pause and realize that we are at a crossroads of right and wrong.

**2. Compare those choices to God...**

*“All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching the truth, rebuking error, correcting fault and giving instruction for right living so that the person of God may be fully qualified and equipped to do every kind of good deed.” 2 Timothy 3:16*

God’s Word is a plumb line for us.

*“Thus He showed me, and behold, the Lord was standing by a vertical wall with a plumb line in His hand. The Lord said to me, ‘What do you see, Amos?’ And I said, ‘A plumb line.’ Then the Lord said, ‘Behold I am about to put a plumb line in the midst of My people Israel. I will spare them no longer. The high places of Isaac will be desolated and the sanctuaries of Israel laid waste. Then I will rise up against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.’” Amos 7:1-9*

Exodus 20... 10 Commandments

### **3. Commit to God’s ways.**

*“Those who live according to the spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires!” Romans 8:5*

### **4. Remember you aren’t alone- we can spur each other on.**

*“Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another... and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” Hebrews 10:24-25.*

The accusation of being judgmental is one of Satan tools to keep us from spurring each other on to good deeds!

### **5. Polish the Image of God!**

God has given you a shape for serving him. Polish that image.

Some of the people living for Christ who encourage me:

- Franklin Larson- attorney- put his attention to detail skills- Bethlehem star
- Hugh Ross- astrophysicist- Genesis outlook
- Roma Downey and husband- actress and producer- The Bible series
- Lila Rose- young graduate of UCLA- founded a pro-life group when she was 15
- Ben Carson- doctor using his skills to give life
- Lee Strobel- Legal editor for Chicago Tribune- wrote Case for Christ
- J. Warner Wallace- homicide detective in LA- Author of Cold Case Christianity

*“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock!” Matthew 7:24-25*