

Biblical Definition of Sin

Jeremiah 44:23 (NKJV)

"Because you have burned incense and because you have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD or walked in His law, in His statutes or in His testimonies, therefore this calamity has happened to you, as at this day."

→ **Commentary:** Sin is clearly defined here as not obeying Yehovah's law, statutes, and testimonies. Sin is disobedience to Yehovah's instructions.

Ezekiel 18:21 (NKJV)

"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."

→ **Commentary:** Turning from sin involves obeying Yehovah's statutes and doing what is just and right. Repentance is shown by action: obedience.

Daniel 9:11 (NKJV)

"Yes, all Israel has transgressed Your law, and has departed so as not to obey Your voice; therefore the curse and the oath written in the Law of Moses the servant of God have been poured out on us, because we have sinned against Him."

→ **Commentary:** Sin is defined here again as transgressing the law and refusing to obey Yehovah's voice.

Romans 3:20 (NKJV)

"Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin."

→ **Commentary:** The Torah (law) shows us what sin is. It acts as a mirror to reveal where we have fallen short.

Romans 7:7 (NKJV)

"What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, 'You shall not covet.'"

→ **Commentary:** Paul explicitly says that without the Torah, he would not have known what sin is. Torah defines sin.

1 John 3:4 (NKJV)

"Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness."

→ **Commentary:** Very clear definition: Sin = Lawlessness. Lawlessness = rejection or breaking of the Torah.

James 2:8-12 (NKJV)

"If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself,' you do well; but if you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all. For He who said, 'Do not commit adultery,' also said, 'Do not murder.' Now if you do not commit adultery, but you do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty."

→ **Commentary:** James teaches that sin is defined by transgressing the law, and he points out that the "royal law" — loving your neighbor — is part of Torah.

Bottom Line

The Bible defines sin as breaking, rejecting, or walking contrary to Yehovah's Torah (His instructions, commandments, statutes, and testimonies). Torah is the standard of righteousness.

Without Torah, there is no knowledge of sin. Without Torah, there is no truth to live by.

Therefore, anyone who teaches that the Torah is no longer necessary is teaching lawlessness — and according to the Scriptures, lawlessness is sin.

Summary Statement

- Torah is the truth.
- Torah defines what sin is.
- Torah shows us how to walk after we are saved.
- Faith brings obedience.
- Obedience is the fruit of genuine faith.

If anyone claims the Torah is abolished, then by the biblical definition, they are promoting sin.