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**Christian Beliefs RELT 202**

**Discussion Questions Due 04/30/19**

**Thorsen Chapter 13**

1. Page 147: Modern faith typically sees the serpent in the Creation story as a literal snake in a tree. Is the serpent really a snake? Could it be an embodiment of something else that we just don’t have a word for? While this is not a faith question, I think it’d be interesting and beneficial to theology to explore it further.
2. Page 148: In Thorsen’s description of various sins, ignorance is brought up. He mentions that a person can sin due to ignorance: not knowing that they are sinning and with no ill-will, but a sin nonetheless. Is it fair to judge someone based off of what they don’t know, or should we be judging based off of motive and intent? (I realize we should not be the ones judging people, but in fleshing out the definition of sin, I think it’s an important question to ask).
3. Like the above question, Thorsen also points out that experiencing anxiety can be a sin, since it derives from a deeper character flaw. Is this fair either? As someone with general anxiety, I just wonder if a psychological condition can be considered sin, or if anxiety is just a character flaw like Thorsen points out.
4. And building off question 3, I sometimes must wonder where the line between actions based off a psychological disease/condition and actions based off sin lies. For example, if someone who is diagnosed with Schizophrenia commits a sin based off of their flawed reality, will they be held accountable still?