

SIN TRANSGRESSION AND INIQUITY

Daniel 9:24 "Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, **to finish the transgression**, and to make an **end of sins**, and to make reconciliation for **iniquity**, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy."

Exodus 34 v7 And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, **forgiving iniquity** and **transgression** and **sin**, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation."

This indicates that **sin**, **transgression** and **iniquity** are different in some way. In fact, they represent **increasing levels** of falling "**short** of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

We can see from **Leviticus 16:21** and the **Strong's Numbers** associated with the King James translation that these are indeed **three different words**.

Leviticus 16:21 and Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all **the iniquities (H= 5771)** of the children of Israel, and all **their transgressions, (H = 6588)** even all **their sins; (H = 2403)** and he shall put them upon the head of the goat, and shall send him away by the hand of a man that is in readiness into the wilderness:

DEFINITIONS OF SIN

Strong's Dictionary: H2403 (Sin): an **offence** [i.e. a single event] - · **Sin** is **anything** that comes **short** of the **glory** of God

The English word for "Sin" comes from archery. The archer would shoot at the target. If he missed the mark, the overseeing official would yell "SIN."

Romans 3:23 "**For all have sinned** and come short of the glory of God."

Hebrew Meaning of Sin: 1) Slipping away from where you should be. 2) Erring from the path on which God's put

you. 3) You are not achieving a standard that God has set. 4) Missing the mark or the path.

Greek Meaning of Sin: 1) A missing of the mark. 2) An act of disobedience to the divine Lord.

3) Sin is not too deep seated if it is not linked with an iniquity. 3) Sin is more on top of the skin.

Sin — "The voluntary departure of a moral agent from a known rule of rectitude or duty, prescribed by God; any voluntary transgression of the divine law, or violation of a divine command.

Sin is either a positive act in which a known divine law is violated, or it is the voluntary neglect to obey a positive divine command, or a rule of duty clearly implied in such command. Sin comprehends not actions only, but neglect of known duty, all evil thoughts, purposes, words and desires, whatever is contrary to God's commands or law."

Bible Definitions of Sin:

I John 3:4 "Whosoever commits sin transgresses also the law; for sin is the transgression of the law" (Quoted Numbers 5:6).

I John 5:17 "All unrighteousness is sin:" (unrighteousness— cf. Romans 6:13,18,20).

Romans 14:23 "Whatsoever is not of faith is sin."

Proverbs 24:9 "The thought of foolishness is sin..."

Psalms 78:32 "For all this they sinned still, and believed. not for his wondrous works" (unbelief— quoted Deuteronomy 1:41).

James 4:17 "[T]o him that knows to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (omission— cf. Genesis 20:9; Leviticus 5:1).

Willful Sin:

Hebrews 10:26 "For if we sin willfully... there remains no more sacrifice for sins,"

Sins of Ignorance:

Leviticus 4:13 "And if the whole congregation of Israel sin through ignorance, and the thing be hid from the eyes of the assembly, and they have done somewhat against any of the commandments of the Lord..."

Leviticus 4:2 "[I]f a soul shall sin through ignorance against any of the commandments..."

I Samuel 12 v 23 Moreover as for me far be it from me that **I should sin against Jehovah in ceasing to pray for you:** but I will instruct you in the good and the right way.

DEFINITIONS TRANSGRESSION.

Strong's Dictionary: H6588 (Transgression): a revolt (national, moral or religious); **rebellion**
Repeated sin becomes outright **rebellion** "which is as the sin of witchcraft" (1Samuel 15:23) "An **evil man** seeks only **rebellion**; therefore a **cruel messenger** will be sent against him." (Prov. 17:11)

Hebrew meaning of Transgression: 1) A willful deviation from, and therefore rebellion against, the path of godly living. Greek meaning of Transgression: To go beyond Overstepping the limits.

Ephesians 2:1 "And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins."

Transgression is more powerful and it is a step to more permanent bondage. Transgression is connected to trespass, which is a **willful violation** of the law.

Transgression— "The act of passing over or beyond any law or rule of moral duty; the violation of a law or known principal of rectitude; breach of command."

Bible Definitions of Transgression:

James 2:11 "[I]f thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law."

James 2:9 "But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors."

Isaiah 24:5 "The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant."

DEFINITIONS INIQUITY

Strong's Dictionary: H5771 (Iniquity): perversity, that is, (moral) **evil**: Thus **sin**, when **repeated** against the **knowledge of God**, becomes **transgression** which, if it continues long enough, **eventually becomes iniquity** which **perverts the flesh**. This perversion **changes the DNA/RNA structure** of the "**flesh**" and "**beliefs**" or

"**attitudes**" resulting in **genetic changes** that are **passed on from generation to generation**.

This is the way **high blood pressure, alcoholism, sexual perversions, jealousy, anger, fear**, etc. are passed down from **generation to generation**. **Racism, Greed, Idolatry run in families**.

Hebrew Meaning of Iniquity: Perverseness, bowed down, twisted, to be bent or crooked, to be wrung out of course. "It signifies not merely that which is wrong, but the tendency to do wrong. Iniquities are second nature sins, which drive us to repeatedly, continually commit sin. A perversion of the truth, which leads to error. A perversion of intents, which affects our will. Sin and Transgression are Verbs and things we do: Iniquity is the bent condition of what we are. Iniquity revolves more about the underlying attitudes: Idolatry, Racism, Gluttony, Covetousness, **Unrighteousness, wickedness, lawlessness**.

Iniquity — "Injustice; unrighteousness; a deviation from rectitude.... want of rectitude in principal.... wickedness; or any act of injustice."

Understanding Iniquity:

Iniquity is an attitude so cannot just be covered over with blood. It must be **taken away and replaced**.. David prayed for a new heart and a right Spirit.

Isaiah 53:5 "He was bruised for our iniquities." Iniquities are not superficial. They are under the skin; they are deeply imbedded. Bruises and iniquities have to be healed by the blood.

Ezekiel 28:14-18 You **were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you**. By the abundance of your trading You became filled with **violence within**, and you sinned. Your **heart was lifted up** because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor. You defiled your sanctuaries by the **multitude of your iniquities, by the iniquity of your trading**." Satan was perfect until iniquity was found in him.

The flower is the sin. The greenery is our evil ways. (Isaiah 53:6) The **root is iniquity**.

Another definition for **iniquity can be the besetting sins**. Hebrews 12:1 - "The sins that so easily beset us."

Sin is having chain around your ankle, which constantly hinders you. Sin trips us up, causes us to slip, to err, and to just miss the mark. **Iniquity defiles our character. It gives us a crooked arrow to start with.**

I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the **iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me.** (Exodus 20:8).

The **progression** from sin, to **transgression**, to **iniquity** (**bondage** in that particular area) is **illustrated**, in James 1:15: Then, when **desire** has **conceived**, it gives **birth** to **sin**; and sin, when it is **full-grown**, brings forth **death**.

Proverbs 5:22 "The iniquities of the wicked ensnare him." There is a sin that becomes like cords which wrap around you. You get caught in the entanglement and just cannot break free. These cords are cords of iniquity.

Genesis 4:13 "Cain said, **"My punishment [iniquity] is greater than I can bear!"** This is the first time iniquity appears in the Bible.

James 3:6 "The tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body." Many words that we speak can cause roots of iniquity to flourish.

Numbers 18:1 "The LORD said to Aaron: "You and your sons and your father's house with **you shall bear the iniquity related to the sanctuary**, and you and your sons with **you shall bear the iniquity associated with your priesthood.**"

This shows the responsibility of the priests regarding iniquity. As His priests, we need to deal with iniquity that comes into our holy temple and hinders us.

Bible Definitions of Iniquity:

Psalms 36:2 "For he flatters himself in his own eyes, until his iniquity be found to be hateful." (**hate**)

Ezekiel 33:13 "[I]f he trusts to his own righteousness, and commit iniquity... (**self righteousness**).

Psalms 28:3 "[T]he workers of iniquity... mischief is in their hearts" (**mischief**— cf. Psalms 7:14).

II Samuel 19:19 "[L]et not my lord impute iniquity unto me... thy servant did perversely... (**perversion**— Ezekiel 9:9; Job 6:30)

Ezekiel 18:24 "But when the righteous turns away from his righteousness, and commits iniquity..." (**unrighteousness**— cf. Ezekiel 3:20).

Daniel 9:5 "And have committed iniquity... and have rebelled..." (**rebellion**).

Hosea 9:9 "They have deeply corrupted themselves... he will remember their iniquity..." (**corruption**).

Ezekiel 18:18 "Because he cruelly oppressed... he shall die in his iniquity" (**oppression**).

Hosea 5:5 the pride of Israel doth testify to his face: therefore shall Israel and Ephraim fall in their iniquity..." (**pride**).

Leviticus 26:43 Iniquity: because, even because they **despised** my judgments..." (cf. Numbers 15:31).

I Samuel 3:13 I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knows; because his sons made themselves vile..." (**Vileness**)

I Samuel 15:23 "Stubbornness is as iniquity..." (**Stubbornness**).

Isaiah 32:6 The vile person... his heart will work iniquity, to practice hypocrisy..." (**hypocrisy**).

OBSERVATIONS

1. Sins can be both voluntary (willful) and involuntary (sins of ignorance).
2. Any transgression is sin.
3. A transgression always involves God's law.
4. Sin does not always involve a transgression of God's law (Proverbs 24:9; Leviticus 16:16).
5. One can be a sinner or a transgressor, but not an **"iniquitor."** (Iniquity is a noun not a verb).
6. There is no offering under the law for iniquity.
7. There are distinct differences between the three words (Isaiah 1:28, Exodus 34:7).
8. There are overlapping areas of the three words.
9. **Sin corresponds primarily with the soul and mind.**
10. **Transgression corresponds with the body and actions.**
11. **Iniquity corresponds primarily with the spirit, and attitude.**

BODY, SOUL AND SPIRIT

I Thessalonians 5:23 "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole **spirit and soul and body** be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Notice the divisions in this verse— (1) spirit (2) soul and (3) body. A similar division shows up in Hebrews. **Hebrews 4:12** "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of **soul and spirit**, and of the **joints and**

marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

The spirit is the part of man that gives him God consciousness through his mind (Ephesians 4:23). The soul is where the Flesh (body) interacts with the Spirit creating desires and emotions.

Iniquity / Attitude.

The thing to bear in mind here is that "**iniquitors**" (noun) in this sense hate God (Exodus 20:5) and **God hates the workers of iniquity** (Psalms 5:5) and anything to do with covetousness and idolatry (Deuteronomy 16:22). Where sin and transgression deal primarily with tangible violations, iniquity on the other hand leans toward the intangible. Attitude is an intangible spiritual entity that not only is hard to define but is even harder, if not next to impossible, to govern by written laws, ordinances and statutes. By definition attitude is a state of mind or feeling with regard to some matter; disposition. Attitude subsequently would be hard to legislate which may explain, at least in part, why there was **no offering for iniquity under biblical law** (Ezekiel 42:13; Isaiah 3:14).

Isaiah 57:17 "For the iniquity of his covetousness was I wroth, and smote him..."

Psalms 32:5 "I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgression unto the LORD; and thou forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah."

Leviticus 22:16 "Or suffer them to bear the iniquity of trespass..."

Psalms 59:5 "Be not merciful to any wicked transgressors..."

Psalms 64:6 "They search out iniquities... the inward thought of every one of them..."

Isaiah 57:17 spoke of the iniquity of his covetousness and Psalms 52:5 records the iniquity of his sin, which indicates a certain attitude involved with the particular sin. Psalms 64:6 defines attitude as the inward thought.

Iniquity / Heart

Iniquity, as revealed through the study of attitude, and is definitely in relation to man's heart.

Ephesians 5:5 Covetous man, who is an idolater..."

Isaiah 57:17 "For the iniquity of his covetousness was I wroth, and smote him... (cf. Isaiah 59:7)

Psalms 28:3 "Draw me not away with the wicked, and with the workers of iniquity, which speak peace to their neighbors, but **mischief is in their hearts.**"

Hosea 4:8 "They eat up the sin of my people, and they set their heart on their iniquity."

Acts 8:22, 23 "The thought of thine heart... the bond of iniquity."

41:6 "His heart gathers iniquity to itself..."

Isaiah 32:6 "For the vile person will speak villainy and his heart will work iniquity..."

Iniquity / Spirit

Iniquity appears to have a distinct relationship to man's spirit: Iniquity is tied to the Spirit of man.

Psalms 32:2 "Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile."

II Thessalonians 2:7 "For the mystery of iniquity doth already work..."

Isaiah 64:6 "Our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away..."

II Corinthians 7:1 "Let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit..."

Iniquity / Collective

Iniquity and its plural show up over 300 times in scripture. Approximately 70% of its usage is applied to a **collective body of people such as a group, congregation, city or nation**:

Leviticus 10:17 "The iniquity of the congregation..."

Leviticus 16:21 "All the iniquities of the children of Israel..."

Genesis 15:16 "The iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full."

Ezekiel 18:30 "I will judge you, O house of Israel, ... so iniquity shall not be your ruin."

Jeremiah 16:10 "Thou shall show this people all these words, and they shall say unto thee... what is our iniquity? ..."

Isaiah 1:2,4 "Children, and they have rebelled against me. Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, children that are corrupters..."

Daniel 9:5 "We have sinned, have committed iniquity, have done wickedly, and have rebelled..."

Ezekiel 16:49 "This was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride..."

A collection of people can have a spirit of rebellion, pride or haughtiness. They are filled with a spirit of stubbornness, hatred or perversion.

THE SACRIFICE OF YESHUA.

Isaiah 53 v 5,10 "He was wounded for our **transgressions**, he was **bruised for our iniquities**:thou shall make his **soul an offering for sin...**"

Sin— Soul
Transgression— Body
Iniquity— Spirit

God the Father made Yeshua's soul an offering for sin. Our Soul is the Battle ground between the Spirit and the Flesh where our emotions and desires are born.

V 5 - says that he **was wounded for our transgressions**. A wound, by definition, is a break in the skin. A transgression, by definition, is a break in the law (James 2:11). This is visible to all.

V 5 - The Lord **was bruised for our Iniquities**. A bruise is not a break in the skin but rather a general area of discoloration under the skin. It is not seen as are our attitudes. This fits the term iniquity as a general attitude or spirit of a collective people (Psalms 32:2; Leviticus 10:17).

The Sacrifice of Yeshua was complete. Like the two goats of Atonement—He covered sin and he was the lamb that takes away the sin of the world. Total dealings with our **sins, iniquities and transgressions**. All three had to be accounted for, for our salvation to be complete (Colossians 2:9).

FORGIVE, PARDON AND BLOT

These three words correspond with sin, iniquity and transgression respectively.

Forgive— To send an offense away, to reject it and not impute it. This word applies to all three of our words of study in both testaments. It is used in conjunction with **sin** three times more often than iniquity and transgression combined. By definition **forgive** talks more about the **offense than the offender**.

Proverbs 30:8 "Remove far from me vanity and lies... feed me with food convenient for me:"

Micah 7:19 "Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea."

Blot Out— To obliterate writing or letters with ink as to render them invisible or indistinguishable. Except for one verse (Psalms 51:9), **blot** is used exclusively in reference to **transgression**, but never for sins. It, by definition, deals with letters and words linking it directly to the law:

Colossians 2:14 "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross."

Psalms 51:1 "Blot out my transgressions."

Pardon— To excuse or release the offender from penalty or punishment. This word, and all its derivatives, also applies to all our words of concern, but is used three times more with iniquity than it is with the others by themselves. This definition moves from the offense to the offender himself.

Numbers 14:19 "Pardon, I beseech thee, the iniquity of this people according unto the greatness of thy mercy,..."

Psalms 25:11 "[O] Lord, pardon mine iniquity; for it is great."

Isaiah 40:2 "Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem... that her iniquity is pardoned..."

CONCLUSION

The Lord Jesus Christ will "Finish the **transgression**, and... make an end of **sins**, and... make reconciliation for **iniquity**, and... bring in everlasting righteousness" (Daniel 9:24). **This is mans oldest problem**

Genesis 3 v 6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the

- tree was good for food and - Sin
 - pleasing to the eye, and also - Transgression
 - desirable for gaining wisdom, - Iniquity
- she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

1 John 2 v 16 For everything in the world

- the cravings of sinful man, - Sin
- the lust of his eyes and - Transgression
- the boastful pride of life - Iniquity

comes not from the Father but from the world.

May "the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." (I Thessalonians 5:23).