

DON'T MISS THE MARK

God desires fellowship with you. He wants to be your God and you to be His child. He longs to walk with you and you to walk with Him. But sin is a barrier to fellowship, an impediment to communion. Sin defiles and corrupts. It separates man from God. It brings forth death.

Sin is what God is not! He is "Light, and in Him is no darkness at all" (1 John 1:5). He is holy and pure (1 Peter 1:15; 1 John 3:3). Sin stands in opposition to God for it is "lawlessness" (1 John 3:4, 8). It grows out of a spirit of disobedience emanating from the father of lies, who is the Devil (John 8:44). To behave or act outside of or without God's law is sin. God's laws are holy, righteous and good (Romans 7:12; 1 Timothy 1:8). The New Testament word for sin means "to miss the mark," which is implied by the phrase, "Anyone who goes too far... does not have God" (2 John 9). What is the mark we miss when we sin? All sinners fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). Sin is everything Divine glory is not. For example, all sexual immorality is spiritual prostitution – desecrating what God created (1 Corinthians 6:13, 15, 18-19). Covetousness is idolatry (Colossians 3:5). The upholding of the doctrines and traditions of men while neglecting God's commandments is irreverence (Matthew 7:22-23; 15:6, 8).

The aim and aspiration of all men ought to be the glory of God. The hope we set on God should not only be to be with God, but also, to imitate Him as His obedient children. The revelation of God's will and mind is a reflection of His glory. God's law is loving instruction which reveals the path of glory to glory. "His commandments are not burdensome" to those who love God (1 John 5:3). Temptations to sin are alluring, but they can be resisted. They can be overcome. Take heed lest you aim for the wrong things. Set your mind on things above (Colossians 3:2). Don't miss the mark for God's glory!