

Volume 4, Day 10: Sin Defined by Love

There was a time, not too long ago, when darkness was defined as the absence of light. We have discovered through science that darkness is a substance of its own. But for the sake of simplicity, let's use the original thought as a pattern for defining sin. To many, there is no such thing as sin. But if we define sin as "having my needs or desires met by anything that causes harm to another," likely all would admit to having done this more than once. In a similar fashion we might also say that "hatred is the absence of love" or "rejection is simply the absence of acceptance." We could go on with several of these analogies. This simple paradox of opposites, by count of such expressions in a person's life span, account for the lion's share of human experience.

Let us consider the simplest of paradigms. Let's look at life as a stream of events which are **either/or** on the scale of emotions. This might be over simplifying or trivializing life itself. But if we observe our interactions with each other from the perspective of **various shades of either/or** we might find that anything less than the most positive feeling toward others is also sin. If we consider anything less than the highest positive feeling will hurt them, we can only remedy the problem of wrongful behavior by achieving the most loving feeling for others. Without God's help, this cannot happen.

God's commands were summarized by Jesus as "Love God fully and love your neighbor as much as you love yourself." This has been boiled down today to say, "Love God. Love Others." But Jesus' example and command was even more difficult to obey. Jesus' only command to His disciples is, "Love others as much as I love you!" — John 13

Consider this. Sin is anything less than an unconditional love for God and others! If you are sinless, raise your hand!

My Confirming Scripture:

My Aligning Experiences

DEEPER Every Day -- John Henry Alan