

Exploring Christianity Study 3

What are the consequences of sin?

Introduction

This study is the third of a short series in which we consider the basic facts of the Christian faith. The purpose of this study is to help you understand the serious consequences of sin. You are going to be faced with some uncomfortable facts in this study. But do not be overly discouraged. There is a solution to this problem. Have you prayed first?

Section 1 — What is sin & how many people are sinners?

Read Romans 3:23 (*For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God*).

1a How many people are sinners?

_____ are sinners .

1b Sin is defined in the Bible as follows:

Sin is coming _____ of God's glory.

Section 2 — What Are the Consequences of Sin?

Read John 3:16-19, and then answer the following questions.

2a What did God's love for the world cause Him to do (v16)?

He _____ His only begotten _____ .

2b What does God wish people to have (v16)?

He wants them to have _____ life.

2c What does God not wish to happen to people (v16)?

God does not wish that people should _____.

2d Why did God send His Son (Jesus Christ) into the world (v17)?

It was not to _____ the world, but to _____ the world.

2e Why are some people condemned already (v18)?

Because they have not _____ on Jesus Christ.

2f Why are some other people not condemned (v18)?

Some are not condemned, because they have _____ on Jesus Christ.

2g Why do some people love darkness rather than light (v19)?

Because their _____ were evil.

2h What is the opposite of having everlasting life (v15-16)?

The opposite of everlasting life is to _____ .

Section 3 — What exactly does it mean to ‘perish’?

This will become clear as we look next at a man who lived for himself and had no time for God. Read **Luke 16:19-31**. In this revealing account, Jesus Christ gives us clear teaching concerning life after death. This is not a parable, because it is dealing with real named people. The rich man is not named, probably out of consideration for his family.

3a What kind of life did the rich man enjoy (v19)?

He had _____ .

3b What happened to the rich man after death (v23)? He went to _____ .

3c What was it like there (v23)? It was a place of _____ .

3d Why do you think the rich man went there? He had lived without _____ .

3e How was his lack of love for God shown in his lifetime (verses 20-21).

The rich man showed his lack of love for God by _____
the situation of Lazarus outside his gate.

3f Was there any way for the rich man to escape from this terrible place (see v26)?

There was _____ way out.

2g What is the way to avoid going to this terrible place (see v29)?

The way to avoid Hell is to listen to the _____ of God.

3h If a person will not listen to the Bible, what will not persuade them (v31)?

Even if a person would rise from the _____ , they will not be persuaded.

Read John 3:16.

Conclusion – to perish means to be excluded from Heaven forever, and to suffer eternal punishment for your sin.

Section 4 — There Are Only Two Roads in Life.

Read Matthew 7:13-14 (*Enter ye in at the strait (narrow) gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait (narrow) is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.*)

Here Jesus Christ tells us that there are only two roads in life. You are on one of these two roads. But which one?

Questions to Consider	The Wide Road (v13)	The Narrow Road (v14)
1 How wide is the gate?		
2 How many are on this road?		
3 Where does this road lead?		
4 How do you get on this road (see v14)?		

Question to consider — which road are you on right now, the broad one or the narrow one?

In conclusion, consider:

- Have you faced the fact that God will judge **all** sin, including your sins?
- Has there been a definite moment in your life when you realised that you were in serious trouble because of being under God's anger (wrath)?
- Has there ever been a definite moment in your life when you realised that you were on the broad road to destruction?
- Is it possible that you are still on the broad road? Please consider this possibility seriously.

Prayer

It might be helpful if you were to talk to God asking Him to show you your true state in His sight. Perhaps these words would fit you?

"Lord help me to understand my true condition before you.

Help me to admit my sinfulness compared to your holy standards.

Help me to know which road I am really on right now.

Help me to escape the terrible place called Hell"