

DO WE HAVE TO SUFFER FOR WHAT ADAM DID?

Genesis 3

Introduction: Is Adam's sin passed on to little babies? Are children born basically good and learn to do wrong from their parents and culture? Are children born unselfish, giving and sinless? What could be more pure and holy than someone who has just begun life as a tiny baby, one of God's creatures?

I. WHAT DOES THE BIBLE ACTUALLY SAY ABOUT SIN AND RESPONSIBILITY?

1. **Genesis 3** - At the creation, God gave Adam and Eve three commands:
 - Take care of the Garden, reproduce and multiply, do not eat of the tree in the middle of the Garden.
2. **Genesis 3:16-19** - The consequences to their disobedience.
 - Sin brought childbirth pain for Eve, and Adam was to rule, but to work and both to eventually die.
3. There is no word of the parent's guilt and responsibility being passed on to their children.
 - **Genesis 4:7**
 - Children didn't start out under the parent's guilt. Each carried his own responsibility.
4. Each person is accountable, each is expected by God to do his/her best.

II. IS SIN INHERITED?

1. Why is there so much evil. Does God punish the children for the sins of their parents?
 - **Ezekiel 18:4**
2. The wicked do not avoid punishment because of a good father or a good son.
 - Neither is the reverse true. Each person is responsible for his/her own deeds.
3. One does not bear the guilt of another.

III. HOW SIN ORIGINATES

1. "I ain't got to, but I can't help it!" We don't want to, but we often seem helpless to stop.
2. **James 1:13-15** - God never leads us into sin, each of us is led by our own desires.
3. A sinful nature is ours from birth and freedom to choose right or wrong is ours also from birth.
4. The Old Sin Nature is our human trait. God says all of mankind has it from birth.

IV. CONCLUSION; GOD CARES! (*James 4:8-10*)

1. Even when we are wrong and in sin, God loves us.
2. God is for all people, He has no favorites.
3. God loves us regardless of our own feelings and acts.
4. God loves us and has given us freedom to choose: sin or not to sin.