

The Growth of Sin

James 1:12-15

Introduction:

- A. James teaches two vital principles about the nature of sin..
 - 1. Its origin in our lives (vv. 12-14)
 - 2. Its growth in our lives (v. 15)
- B. We want to study this growth principle from two angles:

Discussion:

I. The Principle Illustrated by Some People in the Bible.

- A. Joseph's brothers (Gen. 37).
 - 1. Hatred and envy (vv. 4, 11; cf. 1 Pet. 2:1).
 - 2. Conspiracy (v. 18).
 - 3. Cast him into pit (v.24).
 - 4. Sold him into slavery (v. 28).
 - 5. Deceived their father (vv. 31-34; cf. Rev. 21:8).
- B. David (2 Sam. 11).
 - 1. Idleness (vv. 1, 2 cf. 1 Tim. 5:13).
 - 2. Looked and Lusted (vv. 2, 3)
 - 3. Adultery (v. 4).
 - 4. Treachery (vv. 6-13).
 - 5. Murder (vv. 14-17).
- C. Peter (Mt. 26:58-75).
 - 1. Over-confidence (v. 33)
 - 2. Followed afar off (v. 58).
 - 3. Denied Lord and lied (v. 69-70).
 - 4. Denied with oath (v. 72).
 - 5. Denied with cursing and swearing (v. 74).
- D. Persecutors of the early Christians.
 - 1. Threatened them (Acts 4:17).
 - 2. Imprisoned them (Acts 5:18).
 - 3. Beat them (Acts 5:40).
 - 4. Murdered Stephen (Acts 7:59).
- E. Apostates from truth (2 Tim. 4:3,4).
 - 1. Will not endure — an attitude.
 - 2. Develop itching ears.
 - 3. Find teachers preach what want not need.
 - 4. Turn away ears from truth — will not have it.
 - 5. Turned to fables — completely gone.

II. The Principle Illustrated by Some People Today.

- A. Those who "quit the church."
- B. Dancing.
- C. Indecent clothing (cf. Prov. 7:10, 21-23).
- D. Social drinking.
- E. Gambling.
- F. Christian church apostasy.
- G. Modern digression.

Conclusion:

- A. Nip sin in bud (cf. 1 Thess. 5:22)
- B. Do not justify or cover it up.
- C. Repent and get forgiveness before become full grown.