



## ORIGINAL SIN: PERSONAL OR PROXY GUILT?

**Abstract:** In this topic, we will seek to understand the biblical view of man’s natural condition. The fact that humans are sinful is not contested by many. Discussions on this doctrine seek to answer the transmission and extent of original sin, but perhaps the most contentious aspect of this doctrine is its application for the souls of the unbelieving, the unreached, and those unable to respond to the Gospel message.

### Learning Objectives:

By the end of this forum, participants should be able to:

- Understand that the theological concept of original sin refers to the sinful condition of all men, not just the sinful action of Adam in the Garden.
- Provide sound exegesis for Romans 5:12-14.
- Identify other passages of Scripture commonly used to promote or refute the doctrine of original sin and evaluate their relevance.
- Understand the main tenets and controversies of the historical Christian doctrine regarding original sin.
- Engage with common misconceptions and attacks revolving around the doctrine of original sin.
- Discuss the Gospel implications of the various views of original sin as touching preaching, evangelism, and discipleship.

**What went wrong?**  
The Doctrine of Sin



**Topic**  
Theological Bucket

### Forum Schedule

- 8:00** | Welcome
- 8:15** | Opening Presentation (Presenter)  
“Original Sin: Historic Debate and Contemporary Implications”
- 8:45** | Theological Discussion (Moderator-Led)
- 10:00** | How might we obey what we have learned?  
Personal & Church Applications
- 10:45** | Closing Prayer Time

**Forum Date:** Saturday, March 14th | 8-11AM

### Discussion Questions

- What is original sin? Is there a difference between original sin and the sins I commit?
- How is original sin transmitted, and what does it mean for mankind?
- Does man have innate goodness? What is to be said about the good works that the unregenerate can perform?
- Does original sin make me liable for judgment? How can this be fair?
- Why is the doctrine of original sin important to our understanding of the Gospel?
- Is the doctrine of original sin essential to the Gospel, or is there room for differing views within the church? What part of the doctrine is essential?

**Presenter**

**Moderator**

### Pre-Forum Study Resources

#### 6-Week Individual Study

Release Date: February 1, 2026

Primary Forum Reading | **Original Sin and the Fall: Five Views** 200pgs.  
- Chad Meister and J.B. Stump

- Essay | **Original Sin** - Richard Phillips  
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/original-sin/>
- Lectures | **Defenders Podcast: Doctrine of Man Parts 22-25**  
- William Lane Craig  
**Lec.22** <https://youtu.be/h8e8regQmXg>; **Lec.23** <https://youtu.be/GpeffU-9mko>  
**Lec.24** <https://youtu.be/KwE0TM-6XzM>; **Lec.25** <https://youtu.be/Y1fColxkgsU>
- Video Lecture | **Original Sin** 23min. - R.C. Sproul  
[https://youtu.be/\\_oEdeEbcNA](https://youtu.be/_oEdeEbcNA)

### Post-Forum Assignment

Write a brief response to the following statement: “A good God cannot condemn all people to hell because of Adam’s bad decision and still be good.” Support your answer using Scripture. Complete by: March 29, 2026