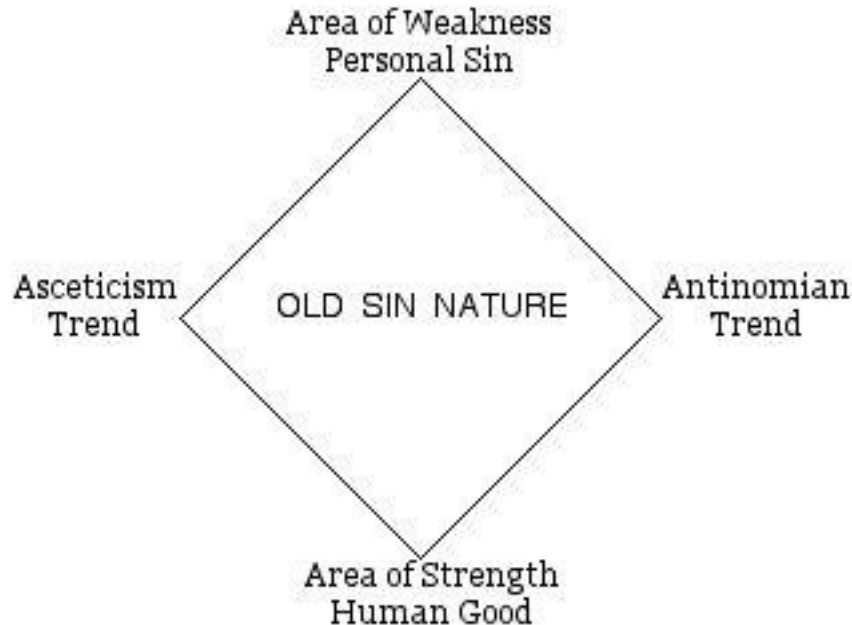


## Doctrine of The Old Sin Nature

1. We all have an old sin nature which lives in every cell of our body. There is nothing good that can come from the old sin nature. I call it the dastardly diamond, much like our very familiar baseball diamond.



2. God, in salvation has broken the power of the evil nature. The believer therefore is charged to manifest in time that same state of liberation.

3. As the temptations from our old sin natures come before us, we have the responsibility to put them to death, that is, refuse to obey the temptation. Putting to death the temptation always begins with confession, preferably, at the mental attitude level.

4. Paul spoke of a war going on in his soul as his human spirit, with the help of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, warred constantly with his old sin nature. He described this in Rom 7:18-8:1.

Rom 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

Rom 7:19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

Rom 7:20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

Rom 7:21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

Rom 7:22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

Rom 7:23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

Rom 7:24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

Rom 7:25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

Rom 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus.

5. This doctrine is an attempt to explain the source, the nature and problems attendant with our old sin natures. We all have an old sin nature, we never lose that dastardly diamond, we acquire it at birth from our natural fathers, each old sin nature is different though similar to the extent: every old sin nature has an area of weakness, an area of strength, and certain trends.

6. Let's first take a look at the old sin nature's area of weakness, shown at second base. It is from here sin emanates.

Heb 12:1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

1Jo 1:8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

1Jo 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1Jo 1:10 If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.

Rom 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Isa 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

6.1 Personal sins were judged on the cross but they were not eliminated.

Gal 5:19 **The acts of the sinful nature are obvious:** sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery;

Gal 5:20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions

Gal 5:21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

6.1.1 Do not let the phrase "those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God," found in verse 21, send you into a state of panic. Given the categorical analysis of salvation, which clearly teaches our deliverance comes from grace, apart from works, this verse must be explained.

6.1.2 If you are involved with the terrible list of sins found in Gal 5:19-21 you will, in time, not be part of the earthly kingdom of God, but rather you will be a slime ball Christian under severe discipline.

6.1.3 People doing such things will not enter heaven, because all will be changed at the door of heaven. This includes all who are guilty of a little white lie, gossiping or the infamous proud look which God is said to hate. Pro 6:16-19.

Pro 6:16 There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him:  
Pro 6:17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood,  
Pro 6:18 a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil,  
Pro 6:19 a false witness who pours out lies and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers.

6.2 The cross made it possible for us to live for Christ even with a resident old sin nature but it is not mandatory. 1Pe 2:24 and 2Pe 1:9

1Pe 2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

2Pe 1:9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

7. The old sin nature also has an area of strength shown at home plate; it is characterized by evil, the genius of Satan.

7.1 The old sin nature can produce nothing good and this certainly includes those big and little things we do in the flesh called human good. Our production in the flesh which comes from this area of strength is like the menstrual cloth says Isa 64:6.

Isa 64:6 All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

7.2 Notice what Paul said about working to please God:

Rom 4:1 What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found?

Rom 4:2 For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God.

Rom 4:3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

Rom 4:4 Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.

Rom 4:5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

Rom 4:6 Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works,

Rom 4:7 Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.

Rom 4:8 Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.

7.3 It is from here at home plate, the area of strength, that human good abounds. Don't bask in the warmth of your salvation your entire human life but move on to the meat of the pie. Leave the baby Christian to hear about salvation every week - get some meat so you can grow.

7.3.1 To overcome the evil of human good we must transform the mind.

Heb 6:1 Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God,

7.4 You were saved by grace for the purpose of taking in the Word in order that you can manifest in time some of those works God determined you should do way back yonder in eternity past before you were even a gleam in your daddy's eye.

Tit 3:5 He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,

Eph 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

7.5 Watch out for the urge of your old sin nature, the old sin nature can make you feel that you are so much better than those in your periphery. Keep in mind we are all just sinners saved by grace and yes it is true: "there but for the grace of God go I."

7.5.1 The genius of Satan meets at home plate with religion to "con" mankind into thinking his human good can please God. Satan will steal second if you don't keep him close with doctrine in your soul.

7.6 There is a production which an unbeliever and a carnal believer can perform that is intrinsically putrid, but carefully masked. So good is the disguise that you and I are unable to discern its true nature. An example:

Mat 7:1 Judge not, that ye be not judged.

Mat 7:2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

Mat 7:3 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye ...

Mat 7:15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Mat 7:20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them ...

Mat 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

Mat 7:22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

Mat 7:23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

7.6.1 Verses 15-23 have been misinterpreted by many in denominationalism to support their goodness as compared with others; it seems to be a religious complex tantamount to a psychosis. What arrogance given the **context** of the verse which is to judge not.

7.6.2 Verse 20 "**Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them**" has been erroneously used to support the practice of judging others. This statement refers to Kingdom Age false prophets and their production - judged by our Lord at the Second Advent. Keep in mind we too will return with our Lord at the Second Advent, totally changed and arrayed in a uniform of glory - perfect creatures even as our Lord is perfect.

7.6.3 It is only in this state of perfection, reigning with Him over all of planet earth that we can judge and thus be able to differentiate in others good works from bad works. Paul made this clear in writing of Satan and his ministers:

2Co 11:13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

2Co 11:14 And no **marvel**; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

2Co 11:15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

7.6.4 There is no one, nobody, no person today, but Jesus who is authorized to judge. This is the major point of these verses. Given the appealing nature of Satan's Kingdom age prophets who "**have ... prophesied in the Lord's name ... cast out devils in the Lord's name and ... done many wonderful works in the Lord's name ...**" I would ask, "Who in the flesh can discern - were these miracles and wonders of God or of Satan?"

7.6.5 With Satan and the help of his demon minions, the old sin nature with its area of strength can do some marvelous works.

7.6.6 The point of Mat 7:1-23 by way of secondary application to us of the church age is to stop looking at others and work on controlling our old sin natures by use of the two power options.

7.6.7 So how do we control this abominable resident of our every cell? By taking in the Mind of Christ.

Expanded Translation

1Pe 4:1 Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that suffered for us in the flesh has put an end to the control and domination of our old sin natures ...

8. Now let's look at the two trends of the old sin nature.

8.1 I call your attention first to the first base area, where the trend toward antinomianism is shown and the arrogance of self indulgence hides.

Mar 7:21 For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery,

Mar 7:22 greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly.

Mar 7:23 All these evils come from inside and make a man 'unclean.'"

8.1.1 This trend is one of immoral degeneracy. Rom 1:21-27

Rom 1:21 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.

Rom 1:22 Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools

Rom 1:23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.

Rom 1:24 Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another.

Rom 1:25 They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator--who is forever praised.

Rom 1:26 Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones.

Rom 1:27 In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion.

1Co 6:9 Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders

1Co 6:10 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

8.1.2 Lust patterns are similar but unique. The antinomian pattern is usually criminal, and replete with womanizing, violence and chemical addiction.

Rom 6:12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.

Eph 2:3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.

9. Opposite the antinomian trend is the trend toward legalism.

9.1 This trend is shown on the other side of the diamond at 3rd base - this is where the sneaky and insidious arrogance of self righteousness lies in wait. People trending here are the monastic types, usually denying self and full of piety and pride.

9.1.2 They are those who would bind up your freedom in Christ and enslave you in the straight jacket of legalism and man made taboos.

Col 2:16 Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day.

Col 2:17 These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.

Col 2:18 Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you for the prize. Such a person goes into great detail about what he has seen, and his unspiritual mind puffs him up with idle notions.

Col 2:19 He has lost connection with the Head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow.

Col 2:20 Since you died with Christ to the basic principles of this world, why, as though you still belonged to it, do you submit to its rules:

Col 2:21 "Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!"?

9.1.3 This ascetic trend is characterized by the euphemism of moral degeneracy.

2Co 11:7 Was it a sin for me to lower myself in order to elevate you by preaching the gospel of God to you free of charge?

2Co 11:8 I robbed other churches by receiving support from them so as to serve you.

2Co 11:9 And when I was with you and needed something, I was not a burden to anyone, for the brothers who came from Macedonia supplied what I needed. I have kept myself from being a burden to you in any way, and will continue to do so.

2Co 11:10 As surely as the truth of Christ is in me, nobody in the regions of Achaia will stop this boasting of mine.

2Co 11:11 Why? Because I do not love you? God knows I do!

2Co 11:12 And I will keep on doing what I am doing in order to cut the ground from under those who want an opportunity to be considered equal with us in the things they boast about.

2Co 11:13 For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ.

2Co 11:14 And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.

Jude 1:12 These men are blemishes at your love feasts, eating with you without the slightest qualm--shepherds who feed only themselves. They are clouds without rain, blown along by the wind; autumn trees, without fruit and uprooted--twice dead.

Jude 1:13 They are wild waves of the sea, foaming up their shame; wandering stars, for whom blackest darkness has been reserved forever.

1Ti 4:1 The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.

1Ti 4:2 Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron.

1Ti 4:3 They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth.

1Ti 4:4 For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving,

1Ti 4:5 because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

1Ti 4:6 If you point these things out to the brothers, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, brought up in the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed.

9.1.4 This lust pattern unlike the antinomian, is replete with arrogance, pride, "do gooderism" and denial of self and material wealth. This trend leads many to manufacture have their own standards and most others just don't measure up, or so they say.

9.1.5 People steeped in this trend of asceticism very often think they can do certain things for God and thus gain His approbation. What does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness."

Rom 4:4 Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation.

9.1.6 To overcome the evil of human good, we must transform the mind.

Rom 12:2 Be ye not conformed to this world but be ye transformed by the renewing of the mind in order that you may know what is that good and perfect will of God.

Tit 3:5 He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,

Eph 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

10. Let's summarize what we have learned about the war being waged between our old sin natures and the Holy Spirit.

10.1 For as long as you live the old sin nature and God the Holy Spirit will coexist as permanent residents. The two will battle continually for control of your soul.

10.2 When the Holy Spirit controls your soul, you are spiritual. When the old sin nature controls your soul, you are carnal.

10.3 When you choose to sin, the old sin nature wins the conflict. You do not lose your salvation or your eternal relationship with God, but you do temporarily lose fellowship with Him.

10.4 The sin nature is the center of man's rebellion toward God and is variously designated in Scripture as "sin" (Rom 7:13), "the flesh" (Gal 5:16), and "old man" (Eph 4:22).

Rom 7:13 Did the law which is good become death to me? By no means! But in order that **sin** might be recognized as sin ...

Gal 5:16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of **the flesh**.

Eph 4:22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation **the old man**, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

Eph 4:23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

10.5 The old sin nature was acquired by Adam at his fall and is subsequently transmitted genetically by the male, through procreation (Gen 5:3).

Gen 5:3 And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness (i.e. with an old sin nature), and after his image; and called his name Seth:

10.6 With the exception of the perfect humanity of Jesus Christ, the old sin nature is an integral part of every human being. (Rom 6:6; 7:5; and 18).

Rom 6:6 Knowing this, that our old man (product of the old sin nature) is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

Rom 7:5 For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death.

Rom 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing; for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

10.7 At the moment of physical birth when God imputes soul life, He also imputes Adam's original sin to the genetically formed old sin nature. (Rom 5:12)

Rom 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

10.8 Therefore, every person is born physically alive but spiritually dead. The sin nature is sovereign over human life if we obey its many and multifaceted temptations. (Rom 5:20-21 and 6:12)

Rom 5:20 Moreover the law entered, that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

Rom 5:21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Rom 6:12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

10.9 The old sin nature is composed of:

10.9.1 an area of weakness, the source of temptation for personal sins;

Heb 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

Rom 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

10.9.2 an area of strength, which generates human good.

Isa 64:6 But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

Jer 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

10.9.3 The old sin nature also has two trends: one characterized by legalism, which is moral degeneracy (Col 2:16-21) and the other antinomianism, which is immoral degeneracy (Rom 3:23 and Isa 53:6);

Col 2:16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holy day, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days:

Col 2:17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.

Col 2:18 Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,

Col 2:19 And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.

Col 2:20 Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances,

Col 2:21 (Touch not; taste not; handle not;

Rom 3:23 For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.

Isa 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

10.10 Having an old sin nature is not an excuse. Your old sin nature is the source of temptation to sin, but your volition is the source of sin. The sin nature cannot make you sin, it can only tempt you to sin.