

First Things First (Sin & Death)

Most complex questions begin to be answered by returning to first principles. There are few events in life that raise more questions than death. Understanding death begins with sin.

Sin is lawlessness (1 Jn. 3:4) Any decision, inward or outward, that is outside of God's law is sin. Decisions are not inherited, but by the teachings and traditions of man, people today believe that we inherit Adam's sin. Learn first things: *the son shall not bear the guilt of the father* (Ezek. 18:20).

The wages of sin is death God warned Adam and Eve that death is the result of sin (Gen. 2:16-17). The prophet Ezekiel told Israel *The soul who sins shall die* (Ezek. 18:20). The apostle Paul said *The wages of sin is death* (Rom. 6:23). We all deserve this death—separation from God.

No escape from death without God *What man can live and not see death? Can he deliver his life from the power of the grave?* (Ps. 89:48) This is not only true of physical death but once separated from God (because of a lie, sexual sin, etc.) you cannot return to God without His help. No man-made religion nor kind deed can remove sin, but there is hope! Learn of it in our next article: *first things* about life.