

SIN WILL RUIN US
(Ezekiel 18:30)

I. Sin will ruin our good name.

- A. Proverbs 22:1; Ecclesiastes 7:1.
- B. Solomon points to the importance of a good name.
- C. There are some names that we will not name our children.
 - 1. Jezebel won't get too many votes by parents.
 - 2. Ahab, Judas or Adolf are not high on peoples lists are they?
- D. The reason is that the ones who wore these names are infamous for their sins and we don't want those sins associated with our child.
- E. There are some children we are hesitant to let our children befriend because of their family name and with what that name has been associated through the years.
- F. We should never let our names be connected to dishonesty, division in the Lord's church, immorality or any such thing.
- G. King Saul fell because of his sins.
 - 1. He was rejected by God and David was to be king.
 - 2. At the end of 1 Samuel we see the fate of Saul and his sons.
 - 3. Notice verses 8 and 9.
 - 4. This is the effect of sin - it strips and it kills.
- H. Sin will ruin our good name.

II. Sin will ruin our prayer life.

- A. Isaiah 59:1-2 - prayers were not answered because of sin.
- B. Psalm 66:18.
- C. 1 Peter 3:7 - domestic sins will harm our prayer life.
- D. Sin renders our prayer life invalid and useless.
- E. It is the righteous man's prayer that avails not the sinner's.
- F. We might ask how we can regard sin in our hearts:
 - 1. We can have sin we refuse to admit.
 - 2. We can have sin but not confess it because we don't want to admit we are wrong.
 - 3. We simply won't quit a sin.
 - a. Alcohol.
 - b. Tobacco.
 - c. Fornication or adultery.
 - d. Lying.
- G. Br. Wendell Winkler told of a lady who responded in a gospel meeting and her statement was: "I had to respond tonight. Sin has engulfed my life and I can no longer pray."
- H. Sin will ruin our prayer life.

III. Sin will ruin our bodies.

- A. Romans 12:1 - our bodies our to be living sacrifices to God.
- B. 2 Corinthians 7:1 - we are to be clean from sin.
- C. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - we are to glorify God in our bodies which is the temple of the Holy Spirit.
- D. Immorality ruins our bodies - 1 Corinthians 6:18 - fornication is a sin

against our own bodies.

1. There are 19 million new STD cases each year - half of which come from the 15-24 year old age range.
 2. Medically, \$14 billion a year is spent in STD treatments.
 3. The rates of syphilis, gonorrhea and chlamydia increased in 2006.
- E. Alcohol ruins the body.
1. Alcohol does not change in digestion, it goes straight to the bloodstream.
 2. Brain function is the first effected and the effects can be permanent.
 3. More than 100,000 deaths each year are alcohol related.
 4. 14 million Americans meet criteria for alcohol use disorders.
 5. We all have known people whose lives were ruined with this terrible drug.
- F. Tobacco ruins the body - just look at the warnings on the box.
1. Have you ever seen a picture of someone's face ruined by oral cancer caused by chewing tobacco?
 2. I attended the funeral of a good friend's father who died from cancer caused by chewing tobacco.
 3. Did you know on average it takes six minutes to smoke a cigarette and that takes six minutes off your life?
 4. Experts say that the person who smokes two packs a week takes 8.3 years off of his life
- G. Need to be fair and talk about gluttony as well, because it shortens lives.
1. Proverbs 23:20-21.
 2. Look at the obesity problem we have in America.
- H. There is also the sin of worry that shortens peoples lives.
1. One doctor said that he can tell rise and fall of the stock market by the number of stomach ulcer patients he sees.
 2. We are told to cast our cares on God not keep them in.
- I. Sin ruins our bodies.
- IV. Sin will ruin our conscience.**
- A. 1 Timothy 4:2; Ephesians 4:18-19.
 - B. When a cow is branded, it loses all feeling in the area branded.
 - C. Pain is a blessing.
 1. We know when we are hurting something is wrong.
 2. If you go to a pediatrician's office, there is a pain chart for children to show the nurse how much it hurts.
 - D. We need pain physically but much more so spiritually.
 - E. When you go to the parable of the soil, the first one mentioned is the wayside soil that is hard and impenetrable by the gospel.
 - F. Sin will ruin our conscience.
- V. Sin will ruin our nation and community.**
- A. Proverbs 14:34.
 - B. Babylon, Tyre, Sidon, Jerusalem, Rome, Sodom and Gomorah - all nations and cities destroyed by sin.
 - C. We are privileged and blessed to live in the greatest nation in the world

- today and maybe ever.
- D. However, there should be great cause for alarm.
 - 1. Pornography consumption is at an all time high, grossing in the billions of dollars each year.
 - 2. Which in many cases leads to another problem which is divorce - one of the causes listed as a reason for the fall of the Roman empire.
 - a. Divorce rates are down but that is because there are more couples living together now than ever.
 - b. 11% of Americans are currently divorced.
 - c. 25% of Americans will have or have had at least one divorce in their lifetime.
 - 3. Drug use is rampant in America and our county.
 - a. Over 3 million Americans have a drug use problem.
 - b. An estimated 14 million have used drugs in the past month before one study was done.
 - E. History shows that of the 22 civilizations that have dominated history, 19 of them fell when they reached the level of immorality at which America finds herself.
 - F. Sin is ruining our nation and community.
- VI. Sin will ruin your offspring.**
- A. Selfishness is the base cause for all sin.
 - B. Our selfishness affects those that come after us.
 - 1. Think of Jeroboam - 15 kings are said to have continued in they way of Jeroboam son of Nebat.
 - 2. He led the Northern kingdom onto a path of sin from which it could not remove itself.
 - C. Manasseh was so wicked he caused the Southern kingdom to go into captivity (Jeremiah 15:4).
 - D. Sin will ruin your offspring.

(From a sermon by Wendell Winkler)