

Sins of Romans 1

G S P S W K N L H J Y P N U F Y F I G W N L X X M I
 V Q J A R D U O R P U F P S V E Q Q V R Y F W Y Y N
 X G P Y S P A R S V O J Q N U R N K A W R P I N Z Z
 S N Z T Y X T W W R V L P O V Y C J C R B G C H T B
 F I M H E W G F N F U C D S D Q C P Y V W E K E S Z
 A T H J C B X I R F G N U G E U D L F D H S E L U S
 C S Z Y D U C J K Q X R Y B C N I H C X G D D E L R
 W A E A F A C N L C N M V U E M A Q G X I Y N F H E
 N O J N T B A J M Z V O R K I E H P Y Q G A E L X T
 K B F I E H A T N X G C B Z T R V O I E N P S O Y I
 R D O U T I M P L A C A B L E C I A H K I J S P R B
 H N Z N G Y Z C E J U V J V F I J Q W L T V X Q Y K
 T N U J E R D X V K W X H O I F O O A T A T X C E C
 W K R W O Z E A Q E L D Q E H U A F Q Y B Y U O I A
 H O Q O F B H X U E J N H D L V A A H E B R V R B
 H R F S Z W Q Z F A F V L G M D P Q J K D N R E R T
 M R L U B N S E S S E N S U O E T H G I R N U T K V
 A G L I E E T G Y T W M R T K Y Y N L Z R O G O K G
 L Z C E T I V W T A R D O U A V Y V X I N G W U M A
 I D X A P A X B A E E J C I S U N V N X N I M S N Z
 G K J S Z H O U K R I P D Q N Q I O K E Q R E N W T
 N H E A U D Z C X S H O M O S E X U A L I T Y E T R
 I D B H N O C D I S O B E D I E N T D O Z P U S I G
 T X H W S R E K A E R B T N A N E V O C S N O S N T
 Y G C K C Y E Y R S Y A G A C U L C I O C R W B Q S
 V W U O M A L I C I O U S N E S S O X K H T Y K C I

Words to Find:
 backbiters
 boasting
 covenantbreakers
 covetousness
 debating
 deceit
 spiteful
 disobedient
 envy
 fornication
 homosexuality
 implacable
 lust
 maliciousness
 malignity
 murder
 proud
 unmerciful
 unrighteousness
 unthankful
 wickedness

Pleasurable Co-Operation

London Christian Herald

A small boy was drawing his still smaller neighbor along the walk in his little wagon. He looked up beaming, when a watchful face appeared at the doorway. "I'm trying to make Janie happy, Aunt Mary," he said.

"What a beautiful spirit for the child to have!" exclaimed the admiring aunt. Presently it seemed to her that the boy's effort was not very successful. Wee Janie was

evidently afraid to ride and was trying to climb out of the wagon and pull it herself.

"She doesn't like riding, Bobby!" exclaimed the aunt.

"But I want to draw the wagon myself. I want to make her happy doing the things I like to do."

That same spirit lies at the root of much that we like to call kindness to others. It is selfishness that much of our good deeds are really done for.

Self

Bill Brinkworth

Today's society has developed into one that is more concerned about "self" than "others". No matter the guise of making people "feel good about themselves", or "you are the most important person," it is still selfishness. Selfishness is the root of many of our society's and personal problems. The life motto of too many reads, "me first", "my rights", "what can I get out of a relationship", or "what's in it for me?" Selfishness has never worked and never will.



- Selfishness:
- ⊗ will sadden and break others' hearts. A selfish person is usually a most unhappy, and lonely person.
 - ⊗ will destroy relationships.
 - ⊗ is usually behind divorces and suicides.

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The Dead Sea

Gospel Herald

We have heard of dead people, dead beasts, dead trees, and dead flowers, but is there such a thing as a dead sea? There is and they call it dead because it receives all and gives nothing. This body of water, the most remarkable in the world, is at the southern end of the Jordan Valley in Palestine. It is 47 miles long and ten miles wide, 1292 feet below sea level, and is in one of the hottest regions on earth. It receives



five million tons of water daily from the Jordan River, but gives none out to refresh and nourish the valley below, which has become

an arid desert because of the closed-fistedness of the sea. Its water is five times as salty as the ocean, is bitter to the taste, oily to the touch, and leaves a yellow

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Self

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⊕ will never make one happy or make one feel fulfilled. Selfish people are usually the most miserable.

⊕ will blind you to your own faults, sins, and weaknesses. It will always be someone else's fault, and never one's own shortcomings that causes jobs, relationships, and plans to fail.

⊕ will keep you from serving God.

⊕ will keep you from being used of God.

The Bible teaches just the opposite life style in order to have true joy and peace in one's life. Its pages are crammed full of those that sacrificed for others, rather than give in to their own self-gratification. Self-denial is taught and encouraged in the Bible. Moses did all he could for God and His people; as did Ezekiel, Joshua, prophets, priests, and most of the New Testament disciples. However, fingerprints of selfishness were left on the failures of many including Aaron, Abimelech, Adam, Ahab, Cain, David, Eve, Samson, Solomon, Saul, and other biblical characters.

Jesus, God's only Son, taught and lived a selfless life. He came and lived, not for His own needs and wants, but so that others could

have peace and a promise of eternal life. Jesus even died for others. He should be our example.

"I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me."
John 5:30

"For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me."
John 6:38

God's Son admonished us to deny ourselves and to put God first in our lives. Nowhere do the scriptures teach to put one's self first and to be self-centered.

"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."
Matthew 16:24

"And he [Jesus] said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me."
Luke 9:23 Also: Mark 8:34, Luke 9:23, Matthew 16:24, Mark 8:34

Too many wince at the thought of a lifestyle like Christ's and the other biblical selfless examples.. "If I don't meet my own needs, no one else will," is the selfish motive behind much self-centered behavior. Where is God in that thinking? Can He not meet all your needs and even desires?

The key is found in Matthew 6:

"THE VERY HEART AND ROOT OF SIN IS AN INDEPENDENT SPIRIT. WE ERECT THE IDOL SELF, AND NOT ONLY WISH OTHERS TO WORSHIP, BUT WORSHIP IT OURSELVES." — Cecil

31-33 and Galatians 2:20:

"Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? ... But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:31-33

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20

Forget about yourself and your own needs! Put Christ first in your life. Do as He commands. Most of His commands have to do with meeting the needs of others. Think of the times you were the happiest. It was probably at a time you were doing for others. When you are not the center of attention, you will find yourself more content and fulfilled.

If you put Him first and obey His commands, he will meet your needs or provide the means for them to be met. He definitely takes care of and protects His faithful own.

The Dead Sea

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stain on clothing. No fish live in the water; no flowers bloom or fruits grow on its shores; no birds sing in its neighborhood. Its barkless driftwood and shores are encrusted with salt. Its setting is a scene of desola-

"Usually he is most empty who is most full of himself." — Lawson

tion and gloom, looking as if the curse of God rested on all the region.

It is a striking emblem of a selfish life. Selfishness is the base of all sin.

The Danger of Self

Kate Hamilton, Queen's Garden

A Moorish palace had a small grotto-like entrance into which we were invited. Once inside there were only mirrors, and whichever way you turned you saw only yourself. You looked in one direction and you had grown tall and thin, and in another short and wide. Your face expanded or lengthened in the most astonishing way. In every direction the mirrors lured and deceived you, promising exits where there were none and only bringing the bewildered wanderer face to face with some other distorted reflection of himself — always himself.

There are people who spend their whole lives as those that visited that palace. Whichever way they turn they see nothing but self, and soon it grows to be an exaggerated and distorted self. They see it made little by fancied slights, and they are resentful or bitter. They see it grow into importance by some success, and their pride is gratified; and even when they think they are working for God, self comes slipping into their foreground.