

**COULD**

**JESUS CHRIST SIN?**

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## Introduction

I was once told Jesus Christ could sin but chose not to; this paper has been written to address this question.

When we investigate the question of whether Christ could sin, we have to answer the question of whether or not God could sin. What has God left on record for us that we might get His mind on this matter? Let us consider this question in light of God's eternal Word, The Holy Bible. When it comes to discussing bible truth, my first appeal to anyone would be have you been born again? <sup>1</sup>

We wouldn't be alive without a physical birth and we are dead <sup>2</sup> toward God without the new birth. I appeal to the words of the Lord Jesus Christ and enquire; have you been born again? This is the beginning, the new birth, the forgiveness of your sins; being reconciled to God and acquitted of all guilt of your sin. The one all sin is ultimately against. <sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> John 3:3,5

<sup>2</sup> Ephesians 2:1

<sup>3</sup> Psalm 41:4; 51:4; Proverbs 8:36

## Introductory Thoughts

The risen Lord commissioned that repentance and remission of sins were to be preached in His name beginning at Jerusalem.<sup>4</sup> Paul also preached repentance towards God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>5</sup> It is essential to be born again, mere religion and a desire to please God won't displace the necessity of the new birth. Jesus said ye must be born again to enter the kingdom of God.

Sin is that which Jesus Christ came to abolish, to put away, and to annul. That being said, Could Christ sin? Could Christ be disobedient to God's unchangeable law, miss the mark, or submit himself to lust, greed, or vice of any manner?

Sin is the definitive outworking of a *fallen human nature* which is hostile towards God; it is that which has been passed to all mankind starting with Adam.<sup>6</sup> Sin is that very thing which has alienated us from God and leaves us lost and without hope in this world.<sup>7</sup> The wages (end result)

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<sup>4</sup> Luke 24:47

<sup>5</sup> Acts 20:21

<sup>6</sup> Romans 5:12

<sup>7</sup> Ephesian 2:12

of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life thru Jesus Christ our Lord.<sup>8</sup>

This being said, there are only two ways we can look at these things:<sup>9</sup> according to our own understanding or according to what God reveals in the scriptures; the Holy Bible. Before we can be taught by the Spirit of God, we have to be receptive to hear what the Spirit of God would say.<sup>10</sup> Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God.<sup>11</sup> In light of this we want to examine God's word to determine what he has left on record.

It is imperative to investigate the scriptures concerning that Holy, Just One, the Prince of Life who God raised from the dead.<sup>12</sup> Seeking the truth of scripture honestly, we can come to but one conclusion. The LORD said you shall seek me and find me when you search for me with all your heart,<sup>13</sup> and again, in the book of Hebrews it is stated the one who comes to God must believe that

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<sup>8</sup> Romans 6:23

<sup>9</sup> Proverbs 14:12; 12:15; 16:25

<sup>10</sup> John 3:19-21

<sup>11</sup> Romans 10:17

<sup>12</sup> Acts 3:14-15

<sup>13</sup> Jeremiah 29:13

he is and that he is a rewarded to those that diligently seek him.<sup>14</sup>

### **Important Considerations**

Now, consider this one, The Lord Jesus Christ, He is truly God! His divine nature and the eternal existence He always enjoyed with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit from eternity past are truly foundational. It is God who created all things by Jesus Christ,<sup>15</sup> and it is by the eternal Spirit He offered Himself to God to purge our sin.<sup>16</sup> He was delivered for our offences and raised<sup>17</sup> from the dead for our justification.<sup>18</sup> It is Jesus Christ that revealed God the Father and His will for all mankind.<sup>19</sup> The Lord Jesus came to do the will of God, He came from heaven and it is one of the mysteries of scripture that God was born of the virgin, and dwelt among men having been made lower than the angels for the suffering of death that

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<sup>14</sup> Hebrews 11:6

<sup>15</sup> Colossians 1:15-16

<sup>16</sup> Hebrews 9:14

<sup>17</sup> Romans 4:25; 8:11

<sup>18</sup> Romans 4:25

<sup>19</sup> John 1:18; 4:34; 17:1-5

He might bring us back to God! Could one with such a purpose contemplate sinning? <sup>20</sup>

### **Eye witness testimony**

In a court of law witnesses are called to validate or invalidate the evidence. In the case of Jesus there is ample testimony of those who were eye witnesses from the very beginning. <sup>21</sup> Consider the testimony of six holy and just men of God.

What follows is the testimony of holy men of God. These men were men of integrity whose lives were lived for their risen Savior, Jesus, who died for their sins that they might be forgiven. These men are the human authors whose books are commonly named after them.

**Matthew** records that in fulfillment of what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, Jesus was born of the virgin and called Immanuel, which means God with us. Further, his name was called Jesus because he would save his people from their sins. <sup>22</sup>

**Luke** tells us by inspiration of the Holy Spirit that Christ was born [uniquely conceived]

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<sup>20</sup> 1 Peter 3:18; Hebrews 10:7,9

<sup>21</sup> Luke 1:1-4

<sup>22</sup> Matthew 1:18-25



by the Holy Spirit and he (Jesus) was born holy, without sin.<sup>23</sup> In contrast we are born in sin.<sup>24</sup>

**John** could say in the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God.<sup>25</sup> This was the continuous, abiding, state of being of the only begotten Son of God, and that, from the very beginning. This is the record of John.<sup>26</sup>

**John** further stated, behold the Lamb of God which takes away the sin of the world;<sup>27</sup> and the blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanses us from all sin.<sup>28</sup>

**Paul** wrote He [Christ] did not know [by experience or practice] sin.<sup>29</sup> The Lord Jesus Christ had no experimental knowledge of sin but came to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> Luke 1:35

<sup>24</sup> Psalm 51:5

<sup>25</sup> John 1:1

<sup>26</sup> John 1:18,19

<sup>27</sup> John 1:29

<sup>28</sup> 1 John 1:7

<sup>29</sup> 2 Corinthians 5:21

<sup>30</sup> Hebrews 9:26; Hebrews 10:12

**James** tells us God cannot be tempted with evil. <sup>31</sup>This being so could Christ, (God the Son) have sinned? Could the Savior of sinners himself commit sin?

**Peter** says Christ did not sin, neither was guile found in His mouth. That which is within a person always finds its way out. Jesus did not sin, nor was there a deceitful word on the lips of the Lord Jesus Christ because He is sinless, without blemish, and without spot. <sup>32</sup>

**John** stated Christ was manifested to take away our sin and in Him is not sin. <sup>33</sup> Please note that Christ asked His enemies: “which of you can convict me of sin?” <sup>34</sup> did anyone? No, it appears they were left speechless. John also states the Lord Jesus told the disciples that the prince of this world cometh and hath nothing in me. <sup>35</sup> This ever obedient, holy, sinless one, (Christ) had only one objective in view; to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. <sup>36</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> James 1:13

<sup>32</sup> 1 Peter 1:19; 1 Peter 2:21-24

<sup>33</sup> 1 John 3:5

<sup>34</sup> John 8:46

<sup>35</sup> John 14:30

<sup>36</sup> Hebrews 9:26-28; 10:9; John 14:31

**Peter** stated the Holy One [Christ] didn't see corruption quoting Psalm 2.<sup>37</sup> His perfect humanity was completely unlike our sinful humanity. It is appointed unto man to die.<sup>38</sup> By contrast Christ laid down His life, He abolished death,<sup>39</sup> was raised again the third day; Jesus Christ brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.<sup>40</sup>

In the book of Hebrews, we read this great high priest (Jesus Christ) has passed back into heaven having been tempted like as we are yet *apart from sin*. He hungered, was tired, wept, and was rejected by men, even unto death, a death of crucifixion, yet His temptation was apart from sin;<sup>41</sup> further, we read that Christ is holy, harmless, undefiled, and separate from sinners; made higher than the heavens.<sup>42</sup> He is seated at the right hand of God.<sup>43</sup>

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<sup>37</sup> Acts 2:27-33

<sup>38</sup> Hebrews 9:27

<sup>39</sup> John 10:17-18

<sup>40</sup> 2 Timothy 1:9-10; 1 Corinthians 15:4

<sup>41</sup> Hebrews 4:14-15

<sup>42</sup> Hebrews 7:26

<sup>43</sup> Hebrews 1:1-3

## Conclusion

Never once is it ever considered in these verses that Christ had a sinful nature or could have sinned; sin is the outworking of fallen human nature<sup>44</sup> which is vehemently opposed to God and at enmity with Him.<sup>45</sup> It is clear Jesus, God manifest in the flesh, God incarnate did not and could not sin but came to save us from our sin if we will repent and believe the record God has given.

I have yet to find any verse that even suggests that Christ was anything but divine, righteous, holy, and obedient in every respect, even unto death. He is all together lovely.

So, the question is, could Christ sin? The record is clear, he could not sin and I revised this paper originally written to address this error with a desire to set forth what God has revealed concerning the one in whom He is well pleased.

I hope you take the time to look up the verses and compare scripture with scripture. The Ethiopian Eunuch and the Berean's were such a people; many the Lord help all become such as they were.<sup>46</sup>

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<sup>44</sup> Romans 5:12 & c.f. Colossians 1:21

<sup>45</sup> Romans 8:7

<sup>46</sup> Acts 8:26-40; 17:10-12

## NOTES

And without controversy great is the mystery of  
godliness, God was manifest in flesh, justified in the  
Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the gentiles,  
believed on in the world, received up into glory.

1 Timothy 3:16

## NOTES

Time ends and then **eternity**...

## NOTES

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“...what shall it profit a man if he gains the whole  
and loses his soul?” Mark 8:36