

**BIBLICAL EVIDENCE FOR
CONTRACTED INSTINCTIVE SIN
"ORIGINAL SIN"**



A MAXIM HAZIM MINISTRIES BIBLE STUDY

Shalom Haverim,

Greetings in the wonderful name of Messiah Yeshua, our Lord. As I write this article, my heart is heavy over things I'd like to change, but cannot. I must address the subject of "contracted instinctive sin" - some of you know this subject as what the Roman Catholic's describe as, the doctrine of "Original Sin." Those of you, who know me well, know I'll be as gentle as I can.

I did not know there are wide-ranging disagreements among Christian groups and denominations as to the "exact" understanding of this doctrine. What is the state of man's sinfulness? Does it affect all humans, and even babies and children under the age of 12 or 13? Some Christians even deny this is a doctrine of the early church, but let me assure you it was, they just did not use the term original sin. To me, this doctrine is not that hard to understand, I am bewildered by some who say that it is. To me, it's as plain as the nose on my face; I was born in Adam and into sin. I pray this article will help those who've never pondered this doctrine before; at least that is my heartfelt prayer.

The Question: "What is original sin?"

Answer: The term "original sin" deals with Adam's sin of disobedience in eating from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil and its effects upon the rest of the human race, i.e. all mankind. Original sin can be defined as "that sin and its guilt that we all possess in God's eyes as a direct result of Adam's sin in the Garden of Eden." The doctrine of original sin focuses particularly on its "effects" on our nature and our standing before God, even before we are old enough to commit conscious sin. There are three main views that deal with that effect.

Pelagianism: Pelagius (A.D. 354 – A.D. 420/440). This view says that Adam's sin had no effect upon the souls of his descendants other than his sinful example influencing those who followed after him to also sin. According to this view, man has the ability to stop sinning if he simply chooses to.

However, this teaching runs contrary to a number of passages that indicate man is hopelessly enslaved by his sins (apart from God's intervention) and that his good works are "dead" or "worthless" in meriting God's favor (please read all these Scriptures and you'll see Pelagius' view holds no water - Ephesians 2: 1-2; Matthew 15: 18-19; Romans 7: 23; Hebrews 6: 1; 9: 14). It was Augustine that taught men inherit natural corruption from Adam; he spoke out against Pelagianism ideas, and I believe he was right on target.



Arminianism: Arminianism is a school of soteriological thought within Protestant Christianity based on the theological ideas of the Dutch Reformed theologian Jacobus Arminius (1560-1609 A.D.) and his historic followers, the Remonstrants. The doctrine's acceptance stretches through much of mainstream Christianity, including evangelical Protestantism till today. Arminians believe Adam's sin has resulted in the rest of mankind inheriting a propensity to sin, commonly referred to as having a "sin nature." This sin nature causes us to sin in the same way that a cat's nature causes it to meow, it just comes naturally. According to this view, man cannot stop sinning on his own; that is why God gives a *universal grace* to all to enable us to stop. In Arminianism, this grace is called *prevenient grace*. According to this view, we are not held accountable for Adam's sin, just our own.

But again this teaching runs contrary to the fact that all bear the punishment for sin, even though all may not have sinned in a manner similar to Adam (please read all these Scriptures, it's important that you do. 1 Corinthians 15:22; Romans 5:12-18). Nor is the teaching of *prevenient grace* explicitly found in Holy Scriptures.

Calvinism: also called the Reformed tradition, the Reformed faith, or Reformed theology is a theological system and an approach to the Christian life. The Reformed tradition was advanced by several theologians such as Martin Bucer, Heinrich Bullinger, Peter Martyr Vermigli, and Huldrych Zwingli, but it often bears the name of the French reformer "John Calvin" because of his prominent influence on it and because of his role in the confessional and ecclesiastical debates throughout the 16th century. Today, this term also refers to the doctrines and practices of the Reformed Christian churches of which Calvin was an early leader. Less commonly, it can refer to the individual teaching of Calvin himself. The system is best known for its doctrines of predestination and total depravity, stressing the absolute sovereignty of God.

The Calvinistic doctrine states that Adam's sin has resulted not only in our having a sin nature, but also in our incurring guilt before God for which we deserve punishment. Being conceived with original sin upon us (Psalm 51:5) results in our inheriting a sin nature so wicked that Jeremiah 17:9 describes the human heart as "deceitful above all things and beyond cure." Not only was Adam found guilty because he sinned, but his guilt and his punishment (death) belongs to us as well (Romans 5:12, 19). There are two views as to why Adam's guilt should be seen by God as also belonging to us. The first view states that the human race was within Adam in seed form; thus when Adam sinned, we sinned in him. This is similar to the biblical teaching that Levi (a descendent of Abraham) paid tithes to Melchizedek in Abraham (Genesis 14:20; Hebrews 7:4-9), even though Levi was not born until hundreds of years later. The other main view is that Adam served as our representative and so, when he sinned, we were found guilty as well. The Calvinistic view sees one as unable to overcome his sin apart from the power of the Holy Spirit, a power possessed only when one turns in reliance upon Christ and His atoning sacrifice for sin upon the cross.

The Calvinistic view of "original sin" is most consistent with biblical teaching, I'll give him that much, but not the rest of his teaching. How can God hold us accountable for a sin we did not personally commit??? There is a plausible interpretation he gives that we become responsible for original sin when we choose to accept, and act according to, our "sinful nature." There comes a point in our lives when we become "aware" of our "own sinfulness." At that point, we should reject the sinful nature and repent of it to God. Instead he says, we all approve that sinful nature, and in effect are saying that it is good.¹ I disagree with that line of thinking.

Another Point of View

But is there another way of looking at this subject of "Original Sin?" There is biblical evidence for what I'm calling, "contracted instinctive sin" that is found in all of mankind born in Adam. There are several lines of biblical evidence for a case for the historic Christian doctrine that we are "all" born into the world with sinful nature, due to the fact that Adam sinned in the Garden of Eden. I believe "contracted instinctive sin" is a Biblical doctrine, one taught by our Scriptures and by the early Christian Church.

"We are all inclined to evil, each and every one of us, both Jews and Gentiles sin. The world is full of testimony to this. The Torah, the Prophets, the Writings, and the New Testament testify to this [truth]. Original sin, properly understood, is a completely Jewish teaching.

This creates a dilemma. How can a good God simply forgive people who do evil? As Paul says: For there is no distinction: for "all" have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in [Messiah] Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation (*note: 'propitiation' means something that turns aside wrath and judgement*) by His blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in His divine forbearance He had passed over former sins. It was to show His righteousness at the present time, so that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Yeshua."²

My Object Lesson:

I remember studying this doctrine, in-depth many years ago. (In-depth for me is at least one year or more.) I remember that God spoke to my heart back then about something that happen to me when my eldest daughter was just about two years old and walking. We were in a Five & Dime store, Woolworths in Queens, NY, where I lived when this took place.

¹ <http://www.gotquestions.org/original-sin.html>

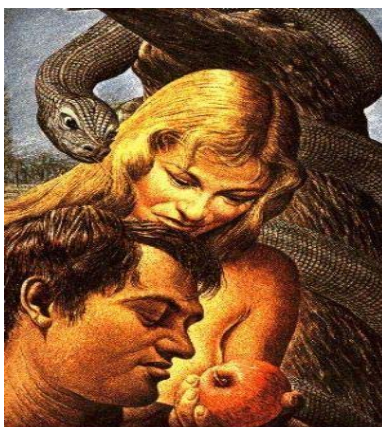
² <http://goyforjesus.blogspot.com/2006/07/is-original-sin-jewish.html>

My daughter was walking well so I let her hold onto her stroller in the store as I shopped that day. While I was looking around, she picked up a small toy, took it and hid it in her stroller under her blanket. Mind you; she was not even two years of age yet. My reaction was, I yelled at her and said, "No, no, honey, we do not take things we do not pay for because that's stealing and we do not steal." So I made her put the small stuffed toy back, she cried, and we went home. It was around Thanksgiving time this took place. I remember it well because it was cold outside, and she cried all the way home that day. But I thank God; she never did that to me again in a store.

Now, I did not teach my not yet two year old daughter how to take (steal) something without paying for it. She just picked up what she wanted and took it for her own. Because she did not know any better, she thought it was OK to do that. For her there was no "law." She did not know what the Law of God says about stealing. But the thing I saw in her that day was she did it sneaky like...and that is what I remember the most about this. Yes, it true, young children like this take (steal) things because they have Adams fallen nature in them, and most of the time they do not know any better. They do not have to be taught how to steal; they just do what come naturally to them.

So as I was thinking about this, I did consider that "death" came into the world by Adam's sinning, and so did Adam's fallen nature. "Disobedience" was Adam's sin, but we also contracted this instinctive sin from him because we are all born in Adam. Because of Adam's disobedience, now all of mankind has this stain on them in the natural birth. But the good news of the gospel is there is a cure for that stain; it's being born again [being born from above i.e. God]. (Please read John chapter 3, all of it).

I believe Adam's real sin was the fact he "disobeyed" God's command by eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, the one God said was "forbidden" to him. It was a command God had given to him. The Word tells us Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression (sin). Adam, however, willfully sinned!



How did the sin of Adam become the sin of all his descendants?

I'll start with a quote that comes from the Catholic Catechism that can be found on the internet.³ I own an old one myself, and it states the same thing. I believe it is right on target with the Biblical view of Rabbi Sha'ul (Paul).

[The whole human race is in Adam "as one body of one man." By this "unity of the human race" all men are implicated in Adam's sin, as all are implicated in Christ's justice. Still, the transmission of original sin is a mystery that we cannot fully understand. But we do know by Revelation that Adam had received original holiness and justice not for himself alone, but for all human nature. By yielding to the tempter, Adam and Eve committed a *personal sin*, but this sin affected the *human nature* that they would then transmit in a *fallen state*. It is a sin which will be transmitted by propagation to all mankind, that is, by the transmission of a human nature deprived of original holiness and justice. And that is why original sin is call "sin" only in an analogical sense: it is a sin "**contracted**" and not "**committed**" - **a state and not an act.**] (RC Catechism #404)

I know my Jewish brother's and sister's think differently about this subject of original sin or what I'm calling "contracted instinctive sin." But they don't see Yeshua as their Messiah either, and that is because they are blinded in part. But the blinding in part is for the sake of the nations, so in fact it is God ordained until the fullness of Nations come-in, and then all Israel will be saved (Romans 11:26). We need not be boastful branches; they will be grafted back in once they believe (Romans 11:18). But it is this blindness; however, that keeps them from understanding this and many other biblical doctrines as well. Please look over the following Scriptures and make up your own mind about this subject of "contracted instinctive sin." Please, be like the people of Berea, those who were more open-minded than those in the city of Thessalonica, and Bereans listened eagerly to Paul's Scriptural message. They searched the Scriptures day in and day out to check up on Paul and Silas, to make sure they were really teaching the "truth" from the Word of God. I want you to be like that!

Does it really matter what I believe about this?

Yes, it really does matter brothers and sisters what you believe about what the Bible teaches on this subject. As always, your comments are welcomed. I personally am looking to Yeshua, the Author and Finisher of my faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the Cross on my behalf. I take His act on the Cross personally. Messiah despised the shame, but because He did it anyway, He is now seated at the right hand of the Throne of God (Hebrews 12:2). And as we enter into the Passover season (March 30th 2010), I am reminded that without the shedding of His innocent blood, there is NO remission for any one of us (Hebrews 9:22). Yeshua, the Lamb of God, the Innocent Blood, took away the SIN of the world and to that all I can I say is, thank you Lord.

³ <http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/p1s2c1p7.htm#III>

Scripture says that we are born sinners and that we are by nature sinners:

Psalm 51:5 states that we all come into the world as sinners: "Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me." Ephesians 2:2 says that all people who are not in Christ are "sons of disobedience." Ephesians 2:3 also establishes this, saying that we are all "*by nature* children of wrath." If we are all "by nature children of wrath," it can only be because we are all "by nature sinners"--for God does not direct His wrath towards those who are not guilty. God did not create the human race sinful, but upright and in His image. But we *contacted instinctive sin* and became *sinful* due to the *sin of Adam*.

Scripture speaks of humans as unrighteous from infancy:

There are also verses which declare that we are all unrighteous from the time that we are born. Proverbs 22:15 says "Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child." Genesis 8:21 declares, "...the intent of man's heart is evil from his youth." Jonathon Edwards, in his classic work *The Great Christian Doctrine of Contracted instinctive Sin Defended*, remarks that on this verse: "*The word translated youth, signifies the whole of the former part of the age of man, which commences from the beginning of life. The word in its derivation, has reference to the birth or beginning of existence...so that the word here translated youth, comprehends not only what we in English most commonly call the time of youth, but also childhood and infancy.*"

Humanity is often described in General Terms as "Unrighteous":

Unrighteousness is often spoken of in Scripture as something belonging to the human race as a whole. This implies that it is the property of our species. In other words, sinfulness is considered a property of "human nature" after the fall. Thus, it must be concluded that we are all "born" sinners, since we are all born human and sin is regarded as a property of humanity. In this vein, consider Ephesians 2:1-3: "*And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.*" -- Paul is here reminding Christians of what they were like before their conversion to the Messiah ("you were dead in your trespasses...in which you formerly walked"). Thus, all people, until and unless they are "renewed and converted to God," are "sinners." That is a pure Biblical fact.



Paul goes on to make it absolutely clear that all Christians came from this state ("...we to all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh") and that all non-Christians are still in this state ("...and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.") Thus, the Scriptures regard all people before they are saved by the Messiah as sinners and thus deserving of punishment from God. This is to say, that from the inception of our existence, we are sinful! I hope you can see this point.

In Psalm 14:2-3 we read: "The Lord has looked down from heaven upon the sons of men, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is NO one who does good, not even one." Here again we see unrighteousness as a "property" of the human race: "they have all turned aside...there is NO one who does good."

Job 15:14 similarly declares that sinfulness is a property of humanity: "What is man, that he should be pure, or he who is born of a woman, that he should be righteous?" Verses 15-16 then speaks of the human race as a whole in shocking terms expressing our general corruption: "Behold, He puts no trust in His holy ones (angels), and the heavens are not pure in His sight; how much less one who is detestable and corrupt, Mankind, who drinks iniquity like water!"

Here are those same verses put this way:

"What is mankind, that he could be pure, or one born of woman, that he could be righteous? If God places no trust in His holy ones, if even the heavens are not pure in His eyes, how much less mankind, who is vile and corrupt, who drinks up evil like licking up water!"⁴

Jeremiah 17:9 says that "the heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; who can understand it." This seems to assume contracted instinctive sin and wickedness is a property of the human heart. Ecclesiastes 9:3 declares a similar truth: "...the hearts of the sons of men are FULL of evil, and insanity is in their hearts through their lives." Again, the human heart is sinful, and therefore all humans are sinful. -- These texts indicate, then, that human nature is corrupt. Therefore, even infants are corrupt because they are human. And if infants are corrupt, then this is the same as saying that we are "born corrupt"- which means we are born with "contracted instinctive sin" in them too. One may, however, object that these texts speak nothing of infants, only those who are old enough to make moral decisions. All of those people are sinful, but this doesn't mean that infants are. This is an ingenious objection, but it does not succeed. **First**, the texts do not seem to restrict themselves to people who are old enough to make intelligent decisions. They seem to speak of "human nature" as a whole, a classification under which "infants" certainly fall.

⁴ From Adah Guzman's unpublished Bible.

Second, as Jonathan Edwards pointed out, "...this would not alter the case...For if all mankind, as soon as ever they are capable of reflecting, and knowing their own moral state, find themselves wicked, this proves that they are wicked by nature." In other words, even if these verses were only speaking of people old enough to "mentally" understand sin, they would still be teaching "contracted instinctive sin." -- For on that view, these verses would be saying that all people, as soon as they know, good from evil, find themselves sinners. But if all people, as soon as they are capable of moral decisions, find themselves sinners, this proves that they are that way by "nature."

Third, Jonathan Edwards also said, "Why should man be so continually spoken of as evil, carnal, perverse, deceitful, and desperately wicked, if as you say all men are by nature are perfectly innocent, and free from any propensity to evil, as Adam was the first moment of his creation?" (*Jonathan Edwards, The Great Christian Doctrine of Original Sin, 188*). That was one of the questions I had asked myself years ago and again now. I do not know anyone who is "totally righteous" apart from the Messiah, not one single person. I have not met anyone without sin what you? If it were true, then Yeshua came and died in vain. But that's not the case; we are all sinners, even babies.

Infants die, therefore they are not innocent:

Death, both physical and spiritual, is a result of sin (Romans 5:12; 6:23). Thus, death only comes upon those who have sinned, right! Since infants die, they therefore must be sinners. It could be objected that Messiah was "sinless," and yet He died. But Messiah "willingly gave up His life," and did so to "conquer the curse of death" that we were under. In fact, God imputed to the Messiah our sins on the Cross, and Messiah died in punishment of those sins. Praise God for His Messiah, the person of Pure Grace to all who'd believe on Him.

If humanity is not born in sin, wouldn't we expect there to be some people who have "beaten the odds" and never sinned?:

If we are born innocent and good, why aren't there at least some people who have continued in this state and remained sinless? -- The fact that everybody sins needs some explanation. The best explanation is that "we are all sinners by nature." Someone might argue that the reason all people sin is because "society" is sinful, and thus society renders it "impossible" for anybody to keep themselves entirely "pure." But that only pushes the question back one step for us... How did society get sinful in the first place? If people are "born morally good," then how did it come about that they congregated into societies that influence all people to sin? No, Jewish teachings on the subject of "sin" are wrong in my opinion. No, Messiah did not die in vain, all have sinned. No one is perfect, only He was, and they killed Him for that.



A Bit of Knowledge:

Most Christians do not know that "...the opinions of the rabbis were compiled into the Gemara, which is a commentary on the Mishnah, which is the Oral Law used by Jewish rabbis. It was first written down some 150 years or so after the death of the Messiah. This, too, became a part of the larger body of work called the Talmud. Many religious Jews accepted these writings as authoritative and used them for spiritual and practical direction." And according to Dr. Stuart Sacks in his book which I am quoting, *Hebrews Through Hebrews Eyes, Hope in the Midst of a Hopeless World*⁵, "...the community which first received the Letter to the Hebrews would have felt the influence of these rabbinical writings competing for their attention." "Then over the course of many centuries, we see that little has changed in the Orthodox *Jewish* world.

Then in the sixteenth century Rabbi Yosef Caro wrote his Shulkhan Arukh (Prepared Table) which has become a comprehensive resource for Jews desiring a complete Talmudic code governing their everyday life. Now I will admit there are many gems to be found in these collective writings of the Hebrew people." Sacks said, "Pithy, philosophical sayings abound." Here are a few you may know and may have even quoted yourself:

"The rose grows among thorns."

"Commit a sin twice; it will seem a sin no longer."

"A single light answers as well for a hundred men as for one."

"And there are practical elements, in them also":

"Use thy noble vase today; tomorrow it may break."

"Attend no auctions if thou hast no money."

"Yet I tell you for all of its wisdom and wit, and sometimes whimsical elements, the Talmud presents no distinct ethical system for the followers of Messiah Yeshua." Nor does it offer any "coherent doctrine" like the New Testament does. What we do find is the denial of such major doctrines such as "original sin," the "vicarious atonement," and "everlasting punishment." "In it, human beings are portrayed as the authors of their own salvation whose spiritual life will continue to develop beyond the grave. So who really knows what kind of strange doctrines (teaching) were being imposed upon these first-century believers? It is not hard to imagine that some were being urged to emphasize laws related to foods." "What the issue was is somewhat unclear, but one thing was perfectly clear: what they ate or refused to eat in no way commended them to God (I Corinthians 8:8). Those who are God's children must remember that rules about food never enabled a person to establish an intimate relationship with God."

⁵ <http://www.amazon.com/Hebrews-Through-Eyes-Midst-Hopeless/dp/1880226618/mayimhayimm04-20>

I want to leave you enough questions so that you too will pick up a shovel and dig deep and study this subject for yourself from the Holy Scriptures.

We all know that Yeshua is the Way, the Truth and the Life, and that no man comes to His Father but by Him (John 14:6). But Messiah Yeshua is not a closed door barring the way to His Father like some 300 pound linebacker stopping people from getting into the end zone to make a touchdown. Oh no, He is an opened DOOR urging and begging us all to come in and rest at His Father's feet with Him. He is the One and Only Sin Bearer for all mankind. We all need Him to get rid of that original stain of that contracted sin we were all born into this fallen world with. If you believe that you can say, Amen!

But what about Babies and sin?:

Lest I forget to say this now, you should have no fear for a young child or a baby under the age of accountable when they die. The Lord doesn't charge sin to a retarded person or a baby that dies in infancy or any boy or girl that died before they come to place in their life that they had knowledge between good and evil. The Lord doesn't charge sin to those of us who are saved; do you think He'd charge it to a baby? If He did that it wouldn't be right and the verse says in Genesis 18:25 states "... Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" He sure will! I believe they are not accountable for what contracted sin is in them, not knowing they contracted that sin from Adam. God's great grace covers them in death because Yeshua died once and it was for all. God's grace is not feckless; it has purpose, and it is fit to assume all responsibility of contracted sin in these children. It's like a baby born to a mother and father with AIDS. The baby will be born with AIDS most likely, but that baby had no part in the sin act that gave them that disease, they contracted it from their sinful parents. That is why God cut the covenant with Himself. Remember Yeshua died once and it was for all, even those who do not yet know they were born in sin. (See also 2 Samuel 12:22-23 there is a wonderful picture in these Scriptures).

So the Bible does indicate that children are innocent, for example, when describing how some of the Israelites in the Valley of Ben-Hinnom had become so corrupted they sacrifice their own (innocent) children there:

"Because they have forsaken Me and have made this an alien place and have burned sacrifices in it to other gods, that neither they nor their forefathers nor the kings of Judah had ever known, and because they have filled this place with the *blood of the innocent* and have built the high places of Baal to burn their sons in the fire as burnt offerings to Baal, a thing which I never commanded or spoke of, nor did it ever enter My mind; therefore behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, that this place shall no more be called Tophet or the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter." (Jeremiah 19:4-6)

The Bible also indicates that children are regarded as being innocent because of their lack of ability to “discern between good and evil” – “Moreover, your little ones who you said would become a prey, and your sons, who this day have no knowledge of good or evil, shall enter there, and I will give it to them and they shall possess it.” (Deuteronomy 1:39).

This is a settled subject in my spirit, and has been for years. God’s grace is sufficient for all these, and by His own mouth He says, “*Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto Me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.*” (Matthew 19:14). If you have lost a little one, you can count on them being in heaven awaiting your arrival one day.



How I see this doctrine now?

Many years later I now see “contracted instinctive sin” or original sin as the “genetic defect” (bad DNA)⁶ we all inherited from Adam and Eve falling from grace. Through this genetic defect we all inherited “death,” both physical and spiritual, and because of it, we were separated from God. The Good News is that through Messiah Yeshua, the Sinless Lamb of God, we all have the ability to conquer this genetic defect (sin and death) and be reconnected (reconciled) to God eternally. Paradise (Eden) was the original state of Adam’s garden; it can be ours as well if we are reconciled to God through Yeshua’s blood atonement. His is the Way Maker! Let me end by quoting what C. S. Lewis said, and in what I can not remember, but it was so good I wrote it down in one of my bible years ago. Lewis stated,

⁶ Almost 98% of the DNA in the human genome geneticists still classify as “junk DNA,” according to Richard Dawkins book “The Selfish Gene: 30th Anniversary Edition (London: Oxford University Press, 2006)” - which may imply a purely structural function or an encoding function that has not yet been identified. More likely, the “sin trait” has been encrypted within the entire genome, more complex than even a supergene. Dawkins calls the sin gene the “selfish gene,” he may be right.

“I believe in the gospel as I believe the sun has risen, not because only because I see it, but because by it, I see everything else.”

And let me not forget Archbishop William Temple who hit the mark right on the head when he stated,

“The only thing of my very own which I contribute to my redemption is the sin from which I need to be redeemed.”

That would be my own confession as well. I do believe it was Yeshua the Messiah, the Aleph & Tav in Creation who you can't see in English, but can in the Hebrew text of Genesis 1:1, who created just the right planet in God's vast Universe to create mankind in God's own image. I thank Abba for Yeshua everyday. I know I live on a privileged planet and I am part of a privileged people, and to God be the glory.

If you'd like to read some or all of “The Great Christian Doctrine of Original Sin Defended; Evidences of its Truth produced, and Arguments to the Contrary answered by Jonathan Edwards, go to the link below.⁷ You will find this book on-line and I know you will enjoy reading it. It is a Classic! -- A word of apology to my readers regarding occasional quotations or references which, owing up to my failure because I read so much, I did not carefully record these resources, and they have not all been footnoted here in this article.

Shalom, Rev. Barbara Di Gilio Th.D. <><



⁷ http://www.mountainretreatorg.net/classics/jonathanedwards/original_sin.shtml

