



Sermon Questions

March 3, 2024 | Scripture: Gen 3:1-19; 1 Cor 15:21-26; Rev 22:1-5 (Sin, Death, Promise)

Pre-study: 3 things from the sermon. *Note down 3 ideas, illustrations, quotes, or points that made an impression in the sermon.*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Core Questions

1. From the earliest days of the church, a clear doctrine of sin has been central to the proclamation of the gospel.

“Augustine’s emphasis on the universal depravity of human nature – seen by so many then and now as an insult to human dignity – is curiously liberating. I once heard a preacher encourage his listeners to begin a prayer with the following words: ‘Lord, I am the failure that you always knew I would be.’” (from Alan Jacobs, *Original Sin: A Cultural History*).

Is a clear emphasis on sin ‘curiously liberating,’ or not? Why? Discuss.

2. Read question 2 of the Heidelberg Catechism, a very personal and apologetically engaged historic summary of Christian doctrine. Notice how early and foundationally sin is mentioned.

2. Q. What do you need to know in order to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

A. First, how great my sins and misery are;[1] second, how I am delivered from all my sins and misery;[2] third, how I am to be thankful to God for such deliverance.[3]

[1] Rom. 3:9, 10; I John 1:10. [2] John 17:3; Acts 4:12; 10:43. [3] Matt. 5:16; Rom. 6:13; Eph. 5:8-10; I Pet. 2:9, 10.

How does this sound to 21st Century ears?

Inward Grace in Action

3. We confess our sins weekly in worship and hear the assurance of pardon from God’s word. When have you fallen into going through the motions and underestimating the wonder of forgiveness, or the gravity of your sin? Take some time to rejoice in your deliverance.

Outward Grace in Action

4. If there truly is no other deliverer than Jesus, how can we hold out the hope of the gospel in the face of sin and death all around us?

Additional resources:

Book: Bill Davis, professor of Ethics at Covenant College and elder in the PCA, has written an immensely practical and helpful [guide for considering end-of-life issues](#), and approaching death, as a Christian.

WORSHIP THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Reflect on these Scriptures:

- Genesis 3:1-19
- Psalm 32
- Amos 9
- Luke 13:1-5
- 1 Corinthians 15:21-26
- Rev 22:1-5

Serve: Come as a CG to the [Missions Conference](#) on Saturday! If you can’t make it all day, [come to the Churchwide Supper in the evening](#).

Pray: Pray for those facing the immediate presence of sin and death in our church family, that they would find deep comfort in the promises of God.

Reach out if you need assistance:

- Call our church office at 703.821.0800
- Request aid from our Deacons’ Fund at deaconsfund@mcleanpres.org