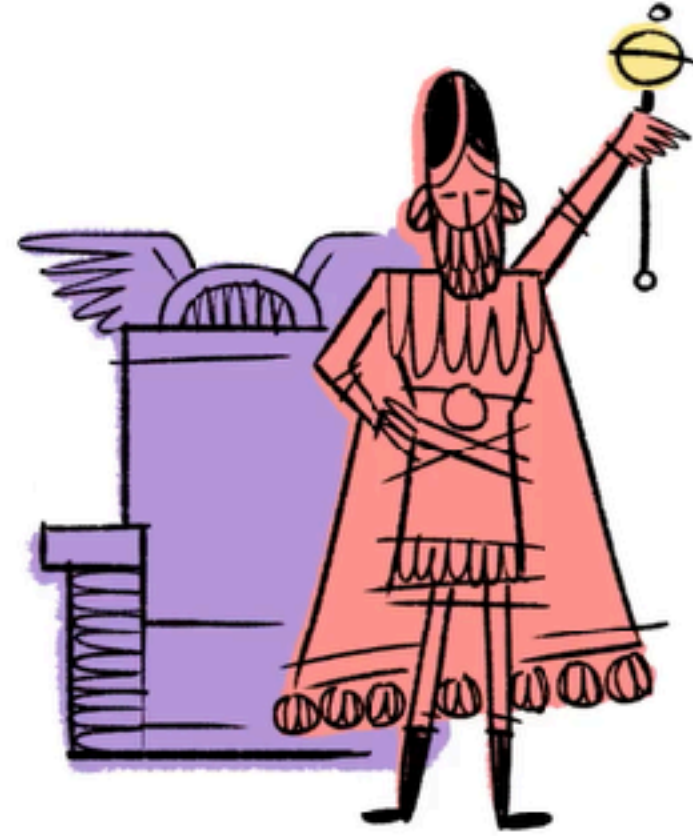




IMAGE OF GOD



GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM



the BIBLE
PROJECT

generosity



the BIBLE
PROJECT

JUSTICE



the BIBLE
PROJECT





How would you define \sin ?





Romans
3:23

For all have sinned and fall
short of the glory of God.

Matthew
5:48

Be perfect as your heavenly
father is perfect.







N.T. Wright

(The Day the
Revolution Began)

The normal Greek word for “sin,” namely *hamartia*, means “missing the mark”: shooting at a target and failing to hit it.

This is subtly but importantly different from being given a long and fussy list of things you must and mustn’t do and failing to observe them all.

In the story the Bible is telling, humans were created for a purpose, and Israel was called for a purpose...



N.T. Wright

(The Day the
Revolution Began)

and the purpose was not simply “to keep the rules,” “to be with God,” or “to go to heaven,” as you might suppose from innumerable books, sermons, hymns, and prayers.

Humans were made to be “image-bearers,” to reflect the praises of creation back to the Creator and to reflect the Creator’s wise and loving stewardship into the world.

Sin is failing to fulfill God's created purpose in reflecting His glory as His image-bearers.

Romans
3:23

For all have sinned and fall short of
the glory of God.

Romans
3:23

For all have sinned and fall short
of [reflecting] the glory of God.

Hebrews
1:3

The Son is the **radiance of God's glory** and the exact representation of his being.



N.T. Wright

(The Day the
Revolution Began)

Humans are made to worship the God who created them in his own image and so to be sustained and renewed in that image-bearing capacity.

Like many scholars today, I understand the idea of the "image," as in Genesis 1:26-28, to mean that humans are designed to function like angled mirrors.



N.T. Wright

(The Day the
Revolution Began)

We are created in order to reflect the worship of all creation back to the Creator and by that same means to reflect the wise sovereignty of the Creator into the world.

Human beings, worshipping their Creator, were thus the intended key to the proper flourishing of the world.

John 1:14

We have **seen his glory**, the **glory** of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Matthew 22:34-40

Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Romans
13:8

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for **the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.**

Luke 6:27-37

"But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back.

Do to others as you would have them do to you. "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them.

Luke
6:27-37

And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full.

But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Matthew 5:46-48

If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be **perfect**, therefore, as your heavenly Father is **perfect**.

Onesimus

Paul

Philemon

