

## The Why of Sin (3)

To sin is *to miss the mark*; God's *mark* – drawn away from His will by our desires (Jas 1:13-15). It is not necessary to carry out a sinful plan; the planning is sinful (Matt 5:28). All unforgiven sin will separate us eternally from God (Rom 6:23; Isa 59:1-2). We have considered *deception*, *ignorance* of Divine law, *pride* and *unbelief* as causes of sin. Here are two more causes.

### **PLEASURE:**

Most people sin because of the pleasure they derive from it. The widow “who lives in pleasure is dead while she lives” (1 Tim 5:6). But the pleasure derived from sin lasts only for a moment. Moses chose “to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin” (Heb 11:25). We must not love pleasure more than God (2 Tim 3:4). And we certainly should not engage in pleasures that are sinful. Drunkenness, greed, and sensuality (modern dances) are pleasures that many seek in place of the love for God (Gal 5:19-21).

### **POWER:**

An early convert to Christ named Simon had a lust for the apostle's power; he was even willing to pay money for it (Acts 8:18-19). Peter said to him, “Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money! You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God. Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you. For I see that you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity.” Simon responded properly to Peter's rebuke saying, “Pray to the Lord for me, that none of the things which you have spoken may come upon me” (8:20-24). The thirst for power has turned many people away from salvation in Christ (Rom 1:16).

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Sunday: 9:30; 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.