

Chapter 6

The Fall of Man, Sin, and the Punishment for Sin

1. Our first parents were led astray by the cunning temptation of Satan and sinned in eating the forbidden fruit.¹ It pleased God to allow them to sin, because in his wisdom and holiness he planned to order their sin to his own glory.²
 1. Gn 3.13, 2 Cor 11.3, Gn 3.1-14.
 2. Rom 11.32, 5.19-21.
2. By this sin they fell from their original righteousness and fellowship with God,³ and so became dead in sin⁴ and completely polluted in all their faculties and parts of body and soul.⁵
 3. Gn 3.6-8, Eccl 7.29, Rom 3.23, Gn 2.17.
 4. Gn 2.17, Eph 2.1-3, Rom 5.12,
 5. Ti 1.15, Gn 6.5, Jer 17.9, Rom 3.10-19, 8.6-8, Ps 58.1-5.
3. Since Adam and Eve are the root of all mankind, the guilt for this sin has been imputed to all human beings,⁶ who are their natural descendants and have inherited the same death in sin and the same corrupt nature.⁷
 6. Gn 1.27-28, 2.16-17, Rom 5.12,15-19, Acts 17.26, 1 Cor 15.21-22,45,49.
 7. Ps 51.5, Gn 5.3, Jb 14.4, 15.14, Jn 3 and 6, Rom 3.10-18.
4. This original corruption completely disinclines, incapacitates, and turns us away from every good, while it completely inclines us to every evil.⁸ From it proceed all actualized sins.⁹
 8. Rom 5.6, 7.18, 8.7, Col 1.21, Jn 3.6, Gn 6.5, 8.21, Rom 3.10-19.
 9. Jas 1.14-15, Eph 2.2-3, Mt 15.19.
5. During life on earth this corrupt nature remains in those who are regenerated,¹⁰ and, although it is pardoned and deadened in Christ, yet it and all its impulses are truly and properly sinful.¹¹
 10. 1 Jn 1.8,10, Rom 7.14, 17-18, 21-23, Jas 3.2, Prv 20.9, Eccl 7.20.
 11. Rom 7.5, 7-8, 25, Gal 5.17.
6. Every sin, both original and actual, transgresses the righteous law of God and brings guilt on the sinner.¹² Every sinner is consequently subjected to the wrath of God,¹³ the curse of the law,¹⁴ and death,¹⁵ with all the resultant miseries, spiritual, temporal, and eternal.¹⁶
 12. 1 Jn 3.4, Rom 2.15, 3.9,19.
 13. Eph 2.3, Rom 5.12.
 14. Gal 3.10.
 15. Rom 6.23, Gn 2.17.
 16. Eph 4.18, Rom 8.20, Lam 3.39, Mt 25.41, 2 Thes 1.9, Rom 1.21-28, Lv 26.14ff, Dt 28.15ff.