

## Characteristics Of Sin #2

Last week we provided four characteristics of sin in our introduction and discussed two of them. Since sin is an act of selfishness, let's consider our final two characteristics and how to dismiss them from our lives.

### *Self-Seeking Instead Of Benevolence*

Self-seeking gives expression to the baser instincts of our nature and many follow this course (Micah 3:9-12). Self-preservation may be the law of nature, but self-sacrifice is the first principle in the spiritual realm. So let us graciously serve one another, helping those who are distressed (James 1:27), seeking the good of our neighbor (1 Corinthians 10:24) and following the path of love (1 Corinthians 13:4-7).

### *Self-Righteousness Instead Of Humility*

The Bible has much to say about the sin of self-righteousness. For instance, Proverbs says many times that the foolish man is wise in his own eyes (Proverbs 26:4-5, 12; 12:15; 16:2, 18; 20:6; 30:12; etc.). God rejects the proud and arrogant, but exalts the meek and lowly (James 4:6-10). A spirit of humility coupled with an attitude of reverence will lead to glory (Proverbs 11:2; 15:31-33; 18:12; 22:4; 29:23).

Someone once said, "Usually he is most empty who is most full of himself." This was not the spirit of Christ. He freely gave himself for the sake of lost mankind. He taught us that it is more blessed to give than to receive and we need to follow His example (Acts 20:35; Philippians 2:1-11).

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