What God Names as Sin

Firstly we take sin seriously because of what the Bible identifies as sin.

In the following passages you will find lists of things which God views as sin. It is important that you look up these passages to see for yourself what God regards as sin.


Whilst those verses don't list absolutely every sin, neither do they merely scratch the surface. They show us clearly and comprehensively what God regards as sin.

Examples of Sin

These lists include such things as...

- adultery
- murder
- blasphemy and profanity
- pride
- idolatry and sorcery
- drunkenness
- envy and jealousy
- heresy
- perversion
- theft and extortion
- kidnapping
- lying and perjury
- lawlessness and rebellion

God Hates Sin

Secondly, we take sin seriously because we understand that God hates sin.

Imagine a person whose life and nature was characterised by any five of these things (listed column left).

Would you want that person as your friend? No way, nor would God. These things manifestly deserve God's condemnation as "sins" and deserve to be treated seriously.

Unlike God, legalists prefer to deal in trivial details, and obscure points of law. The "sins" which they invent are regarded by sensible folk as too silly to take seriously.

However we are bound to hate what God hates. "You, Lord, have loved righteousness and hated iniquity" (Psa 45:6-7, Heb 1:8-9).

If God hates sin, then it must indeed be serious. Moreover, what God hates is what Satan delights in. Therefore anyone who practices sin pleases and serves the Devil (1Jn 3:7-10, 2Th 2:7-12).

SIN CAUSES ETERNAL DEATH

Thirdly, we take sin seriously because of the consequences of sin.

The wages of sin is everlasting death (Rom 6:23).

Jesus Died for Sin

Fourthly, we take sin seriously because it killed God's Son.

God has made a way by which anyone can escape eternal death. One might say, "Oh good! That makes sin a lot less serious, doesn't it!" But one would be quite wrong to say something like that.

God had to give his unique and beloved Son to die cruelly upon the cross and to shed his blood so that we should not perish (Jhn 3:16). The Just, for the unjust, had to humble himself and lay down his life (1Pe 3:18 Php 2:5-8).

If we will behold the Lamb of God being led to the slaughter, surely we will see the seriousness of sin (Isa 53:3-6).

Let us take God's steps to forgiveness of sin (see overleaf) and determine to be freed from sin and to live lives not burdened by man-made rules, yet pleasing to God and faithful to his commandments.