

Slaves in the ancient world were sold in the *agora*. The Word of God teaches that the whole human race is enslaved to sin.

Everyone who commits sin is the *slave to sin* and resides in the slave market of sin (John 8:34). A slave could not live in the house forever unless he is a son. We cannot live in the Father's household forever if we are slaves to sin (John 8:35). Only the Lord Jesus Christ who is the Son of God can set us free from our slavery to sin (John 8:36).

Man's problem with sin began in the garden when Adam and the Woman disobeyed the command of God to not eat from tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Gen. 2:17). Adam and the Woman's negative volition to the command of God are responsible for sin entering into the world, not immorality (Rom. 5:12a). It was negative volition towards the Word of God. The imputation of Adam's original sin in the garden is responsible for the whole human race residing in the slave market of sin (Rom. 5:19a; 5:18a). Man does not become a sinner through personal sin. Man is born into the world with 3 strikes already against him: (1) Adam's original sin is imputed to him at physical birth. (2) Man inherits a sin nature which is the *source* of personal sin. (3) Man commits personal sins.

Adam's first personal sin was imputed or officially charged to the entire human race. We are sinners before we ever committed an act of sin. God says that when Adam sinned, we all sinned (Rom. 5:12). Each member of the human race received a sin nature, which is the source of temptation to personal sin. Sin takes place when you give in to the temptation of the old sin nature.

The Redeemer

The Lord Jesus Christ is the one and only Redeemer of mankind and the only sacrifice that God will accept (Matt. 20:28; Mark 10:45; 1 Tim. 2:6). He is the only one qualified to be mankind's Redeemer due to the fact that He is impeccable (1 Pet. 1:19). Impeccable means that He was perfect when He went to the Cross. He never committed any mental, verbal or overt sins in His life. He had no sin nature because He had no human father. He was totally free from sin. Only a free man can set a slave free.

Our Lord was truly free and the only human being qualified to purchase the whole human race out of the slave market (John 8:36; Gal. 4:4-7). Jesus Christ came into the world *without* imputed sin and *without* a sin nature. This was accomplished by means of the Virgin Birth (Matt. 1:23; 1 Tim. 3:16). Our Lord lived a perfect life *without* personal sin because He had *no* sin nature and He always exercised positive volition towards the Father's will. Our Lord was impeccable in His humanity (Isa. 53:9; John 8:46; 19:4;