

## Original Sin

Have you ever noticed how individuals attempt to change the structure of a local standard? After one of California's many earthquakes there was a tendency for individuals to "relocate:" an increase of newly settled individuals began to arrive in Nevada. Not only did the new inhabitants bring their belongings they also brought their favorite political concepts they perceived the state of Nevada could not live without.

No matter the situation, i.e., political, and/or religious, new arrivals bring baggage. When put in the context of religion, new arrivals will often appeal to "What we did," and introduce doctrines under the guise of "I think," "I don't see anything wrong with it," or "It seem to me" (Prov. 16:25). That happened with Original Sin.

The doctrine of Original Sin, i.e., sin inherited from the fall of Adam and Eve: a doctrine condemning an individual from conception to eternal destruction.

From whence did it come? "The understanding of original sin has evolved over centuries, with significant contributions from early Church Fathers like St. Augustine, who articulated the need for divine grace to overcome this fallen state. The Council of Trent 1545-1563) reaffirmed the Church's teachings on original sin, emphasizing its universal impact and the necessity of baptism for salvation," 354-430 AD (Catholicus.eu).

Now, let's apply this. During the early years of the Protestant revolt against Catholicism, two of these were Martin Luther, and John Calvin.

Many of those who protested were dealt with severely: burned at the stake, and/or boiled in oil. It is sufficient to say that Martin Luther and John Calvin (and others, i.e., William Tyndale 1490-1536 who was strangled, and his body was burned at the stake). Martin Luther and John Calvin were the most important leaders in the earliest days of Protestantism and continue to influence denominationalism today.

Back to our analogy of leaving one established relationship and bringing preconceived doctrines into the new relationship: Luther and Calvin left the Catholic church due to perceived error. However, one doctrine they did not put behind them was the doctrine of Original Sin, and this doctrine was brought into the development of the Protestant movement.

Lord willing, the intent of this mode of communication will be to investigate the fallacies of the Doctrine of Original Sin and expound upon the scriptures that Protestant's believe support their position. ret