



ARE ALL SINS EQUAL?

“Sin is sin.”

“All sins are equal.”

“There is no gradation of sin.”

“All sins are the same in God’s eyes.”

1. Yes, in one sense, because all sins are infinitely terrible.

- All sins are against an infinitely holy God, and thus are infinitely terrible.
- The Bible does not teach a distinction between mortal sins and venial sins.
- Every sin is enough to send someone to hell.

James 2:10-11

For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it. ¹¹ For he who said, “Do not commit adultery,” also said, “Do not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.



- All sins are forgivable through faith in the blood of Christ.



2. No, in another sense, because Scripture states that some sins are greater than others.

- Jesus referred to “greater sin” in John 19:11.

John 19:11

Jesus answered him, “You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin.”

- Other passages:

Ezekiel 8:6 (also v. 13 & 15)

...but you will see still greater abominations.

Matthew 7:4-5

⁵ You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.



The Bible does not give us a formula to calculate the seriousness of every sin, but **ALL ELSE BEING EQUAL...**

- A high-handed sin is greater than a less intentional sin. (Numbers 15:27-31; 1 Cor. 5:1-2)
- Sinning against greater light is more serious than sinning against weaker light. (Matthew 11:20-24)
- Sins that are more directly against God are more serious than sins against other people.
- A sin that is acted on is greater than a sin that is just in the heart.
- The more responsibility and authority being abused, the greater the sin. (Luke 12:48; James 3:1)



ALL ELSE BEING EQUAL...

- The greater the influence, the greater the sin.
(Mark 9:42; James 3:1)
- A sin with a greater scope of damage is greater than sin with a lesser scope of damage.
- A sin that does eternal damage is greater than a sin that only has temporary consequences.
- Sins of greater unbelief are worse than sins of less unbelief.
- Some sins are greater depending on the mixture of motives.
- Etc...



Never minimize sin.

Always avoid a judgmental attitude.

Cling to the blood and righteousness of Jesus Christ.