

## DOES PSALM 58:3 TEACH ORIGINAL SIN?

by John Isaac Edwards

The doctrine of original sin holds that every person is born in sin. Psalm 58:3 is often used as proof of the doctrine. Let us examine the passage.

The text says, ***“The wicked are estranged from the womb; they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.”***

1. The text says, ***“they go astray.”*** It does not say ***“born astray.”***

2. It also says, ***“...speaking lies.”*** Do infants speak lies or otherwise?

3. Verses 4 and 5 show they refuse to hear: ***“...stoppeth her ear; Which will not hearken...”*** Newborns are not embraced in this description.

4. Verse 6 speaks of ***“their teeth.”*** Do infants have teeth?

5. The Psalmist said, ***“Break their teeth, O God...”*** (v. 6). Was he praying for the destruction of babies?

6. Verse 10 states, ***“The righteous shall rejoice when he seeth the vengeance: he shall away as with a whirlwind, both living, and in his wrath.”*** Is that infant damnation?

7. Job said, ***“Did not he that made me in the womb make him? and did not one fashion us in the womb?”*** (Job 31:15). Did the Lord make and fashion us in sin?

8. Job further said, ***“If I have withheld the poor from their desire, or have caused the eyes of the widow to fail; Or have eaten my morsel myself alone, and the fatherless hath not eaten thereof; (For from my youth he was brought up with me, as with a father, and I have guided her from my mother’s womb;)”*** (Job 31:16-18). Did Job, while an infant, bring up the orphan and guide the widow?

9. The Psalmist said, ***“I was cast upon thee from the womb: thou art my God from my mother’s belly”*** (Ps. 22:10). And again, ***“By thee have I been holden up from the womb; thou art he that took me out of my mother’s bowels: my praise shall be continually of thee”*** (Ps. 71:6). Did he trust and praise God as an infant?

10. Mr. Albert Barnes, the Presbyterian commentator, in his commentary on the passage, conceded that it cannot be adduced to prove the doctrine of

original sin, but that it must be proved elsewhere.

### A CHILD IS NOT BORN IN SIN

1. **DEUTERONOMY 1:39** — ***“...your children, which in that day had no knowledge between good and evil.”***
2. **ECCLESIASTES 7:29** — ***“... God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions.”***
3. **EZEKIEL 18:20** — ***“The soul that sinneth it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father; neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.”***
4. **MATTHEW 18:3** — ***“Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.”***
5. **MARK 10:14** — ***“Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.”***

# THREE CLASSES AT THE JUDGMENT

by John Isaac Edwards

The Bible shows there will be three classes of people at the judgment.

1) **THOSE THE LORD NEVER KNEW.** Jesus taught, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, **I never knew you:** depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Mt. 7:21-23). There will be those who claim to have known the Lord, but He will say, "I never knew you."

2) **THOSE THE LORD ONCE**

**KNEW.** Luke 13 shows there will be at the judgment those the Lord once knew. It is written, "Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, **I know you not** whence ye are: Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. But he shall say, I tell you, **I know you not** whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the

kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out" (Lk. 13:24-28). I once knew you, but I know you not now!

3) **FAITHFUL CHILDREN OF GOD.** In the judgment scene of Matthew 25, "Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, **Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world**" (v. 34). These are faithful children of God. Verses 21 and 23 report, "Well done, **good and faithful servant**...enter thou into the joy of thy lord."

Of these three classes, there is only one **entering** class. The other two classes will be in the **departing** class. Which class will you be in?

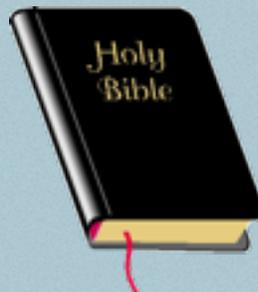
**Each One Find One!  
Each One Bring One!!  
Each One Win One!!!**

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