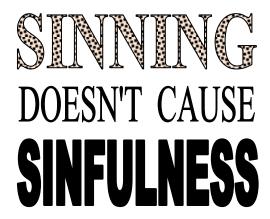
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(Romans 8:7-8)

When a person contemplates committing a sinful act, that person is actually sinning before the act occurs (see Matthew 5:28). Only God the Son, Jesus Christ, can save a sinner. Call upon Him to save you. Then thank Him for changing your heart and causing you to desire salvation.

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13)



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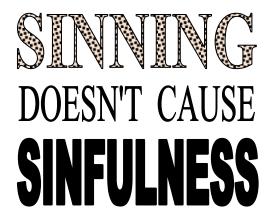
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Dogs are born as dogs. Because they're dogs, they act like dogs. Leopards don't become leopards by acquiring spots. They are born as leopards. Because of this, they have spots. Pigs are born as pigs. Because they're pigs, they wallow in the mire. Each of these creatures likes to do the things they do because they are what they are.

Scripture uses these examples to explain the sinful nature which causes humans to sin. Because the human race fell when Adam and Eve sinned, every human is born sinful. They are born spiritually dead. This is why Jesus told Nicodemus,

"... Ye must be born again." (John 3:7)

Many folks try to clean up their act by doing good works. However, unless Christ miraculously changes them on the inside, they will continue to be dominated by sin. It is part of their fallen nature. The following Scriptures teach this.

"But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was

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"But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire." (2 Peter 2:22)

"Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil."
(Jeremiah 13:23)

The plight of a sinner is so severe that the sinner has no power to deliver himself or herself from sin. Some argue that the sinner can do something: He or she can come to Christ. It's true that genuinely coming to Christ is always associated with salvation. However, Jesus made it clear that even a person's desire to come, must be placed in the heart by God.

"No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day." (John 6:44)

"And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father." (John 6:65)

Why is this? The following Scripture tells us.

"Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God,

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