

The Mother of All Sins

So, what was the first sin? (Some suggestions are pride, blasphemy, lying, suppressing truth, dishonor)
In the angelic realm it was Lucifer's insane desire to replace God.
In the human realm it was Eve's rejection of God's command and taking of the forbidden fruit.
But I would argue that there was a sin that led to those sins, a mother of all sins and antecedent to both.
It was the sin of ingratitude.

Lucifer was the most beautiful, most powerful, most exalted, most privileged of all angels, but ***it just wasn't enough!***
Isaiah 14:12 "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! You have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God, I will sit on the mount, I will ascend, I will be like the Most High.'

Adam and Eve had a perfect relationship, perfect health, in a paradise garden, but ***it just wasn't enough!***
Romans 1:21 although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, *nor were thankful*

Ingratitude is never satisfied.

Ingratitude is a lethal, systemic infection that spreads, enflaming all other lusts.

Proverbs 30 excerpts

Two things I request of You (Deprive me not before I die):

Remove falsehood and lies far from me; **Give me neither poverty nor riches... Feed me with the food allotted to me;**

Lest I be full and deny You, And say, "Who is the LORD?"

Or lest I be poor and steal, And profane the name of my God.

The leech has two daughters... **Give and Give!** (Identical twins, eh? – sorry, I added that!)

There are three **things that are never satisfied... four never say, "Enough!"**:

The grave...the barren womb... the earth that is not satisfied with water... and the fire never says, "Enough!"

Ingratitude is not the result of not having enough!

Ingratitude is a heart attitude that results in believing we never have enough, no matter what we have!

Have you noticed that the godly are grateful?

Have you noticed that the godly often express gratitude for *the very things* that ungrateful people point to as proof they have no reason to give thanks!!!

Have you noticed that grateful people are contented people and it has very little to do with circumstances?

I am challenged in my spirit daily to become more grateful, for in gratitude our God is glorified.

Job, Joseph, Daniel and Paul all demonstrate that mere mortals can be content in God and delight in Him with a grateful heart in the midst of crushing circumstances and yet independent of those circumstances, for their delight was in their God.

The Lord's Table is commonly called ~~the~~ Eucharist, from the Greek word eucharisteo, the verb ~~to~~ give thanks+because he took the bread and cup and gave thanks! He gave thanks for the symbols of the most horrific suffering in the universe that would soon be his. He gave thanks! How can we not?

As you gather for a meal, quote Psalm 100 together and sing the doxology! Take the opportunity at the end of the meal to ask others to share their gratitude. It's catching! Train to be grateful, for in gratitude we begin to see reality.

Self Check Questions:

1. Is my gratitude pervasive and my complaints rare?
2. Do I begin and end my day with thanksgiving?
3. How long does it take me to find something to be grateful for?
4. Am I spreading gratitude as a carrier of contentment or infecting others with the disease of dissatisfaction?

For Further Study: Psalms 100, 103, 118, 136, 145; Romans 1 (the downward spiral of ingratitude); 1 Thessalonians 5:18;

Lord, thank You for making me Your own; for rescuing me; for forgiving me; for providing my needs; for leading me on this unpredictable journey; for sustaining my faith; for teaching me; for testing me; for training me; for giving me Yourself, Your word, Your Spirit, Your people, Your mission, and an everlasting inheritance in Your city! Lord, I give You thanks, in the name of Him Who gave thanks for the bread of His suffering and the cup of His sacrifice, the grateful Son of God, Amen+

Remember, you are very special to us and we pray for you continually. Living with leaving in view.... Jn 9:4
Ron & Val

Seeing The Invisible, embracing The Unapproachable, declaring The Unexplainable, changed by The Immutable, running after The Irresistible with inexhaustible joy in our inexpressible sorrows, spending our time on eternity, owning nothing yet possessing everything that matters and lasts. We are Pilgrims in Paradox. Welcome to THE JOURNEY.