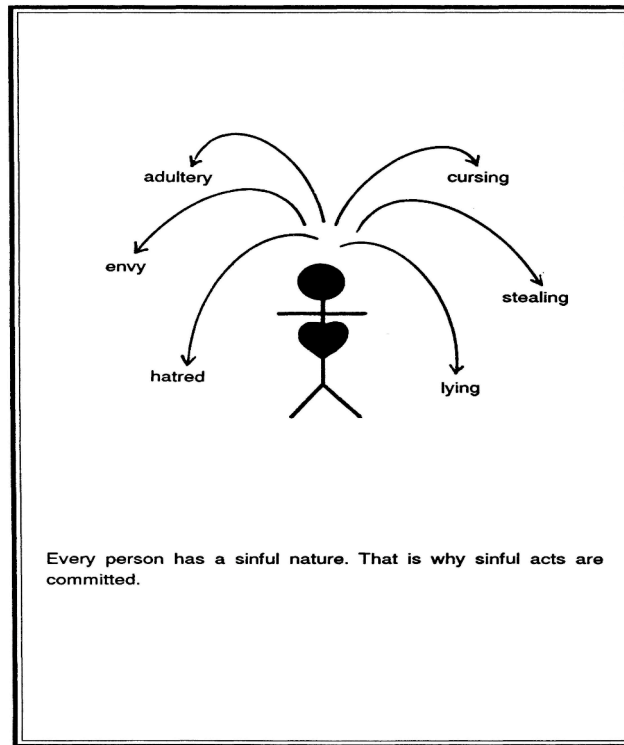


2. The Sinfulness Of Man



There are people who believe that a baby is born without sin. The teaching received by the baby and the environment he is exposed to determine what sort of person he will become. He is like a piece of white cloth that can be painted any colour.

The Bible, however, declares that man is born sinful. We know that a baby inherits some physical characteristics from his father and some from his mother. If visible characteristics are inherited, it is not difficult to believe that invisible ones are also inherited. Did the parents have sinful natures at the time when the baby was conceived? If they did, then the baby has a sinful nature.

It is a fact that every person has a sinful nature ever since our first parents, Adam and Eve, rebelled against God. That is why every person commits sinful acts. If the water that comes out of a fountain is poisonous, the source must be poisonous. If a person does not have a sinful nature, no sin will come out of him.

Consider your own life. Have you told lies before? Be honest now. Yes, you have! Have you stolen before? Yes, you have! Have you had filthy thoughts before? Yes, you have! Have you ever had pride in your life? Yes, you have! You see now that if you are honest, you will admit that you have broken God's laws at virtually every point.

Do not try to blame Satan for all these sins. Satan can only tempt you from without. He can only give suggestions to your mind. But it is **you** who decide to sin. God will punish Satan for the part he plays in bringing about evil. But God holds you responsible for **your** sins.

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