

Volume 4, Day 4: The Sin of Responsibility

When does acting responsibly become sin? You might retort, “Are you nuts? It is never a sin to act responsibly.” And, to be sure, you are in agreement with most people. We strive to teach our children to be responsible and contributors to the common good of our own community. We discipline them so as not to spoil them. And we often help them begin their adult journey with financial and other help. We are proud of them if they become successful in their chosen vocation and if they build friendships with others who are responsible as well.

Many also encourage others to be part a some religious order and to practice the teachings of the chosen religion in a responsible manner. In this case we might call it acting responsibly toward God. Yet we can, and often do, cross the line into sinful behavior. God’s Law defines sin as: “breaking relationship to serve selfish purposes.” We can act responsibly according to man’s laws, mores of our society, or even our appointment calendar, while we are breaking relationships all around.

The ultimate problem is when we fail to teach and practice an up-close-and-personal relationship with God. The highest order of obedience is obedience to what God wants us to do in the moment. When God’s Spirit reveals something which He wants us to do, and we fail to do it, for any reason, being responsible to anything or anyone other than God is sin. We actually do our children a grave disservice if we fail to teach them to be responsive to God rather than responsible to any person. “...Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven...”

My Confirming Scriptures:

My Aligning Experiences:

DEEPER Every Day -- John Henry Alan