

# Sinners By Nature

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## Article III

We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath. Only through God’s saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled and renewed.

*What does it mean that we, not just as humans but as men, are sinners by nature?*

### Sinners by Nature

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5. How do you understand “union with Adam?” What does it mean that we “are sinners by nature and by choice”? Briefly explain these concepts from Romans 5:12-21.

- Adam abdicated his leadership authority and responsibility (Gen 3:6)
- God condemned Adam for abandoning his post to listen to another voice (Gen 3:17)
- Eve was cursed and man is tempted (Gen 3:16)

### Male Nature: Disposition to Sin

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1. Men can be \_\_\_\_\_

- “Man effeminate”

*Where are you inclined to be passive?*

*Where and when do you withdraw? Certain times of the day or the week?*

*When do you hand over the reigns? When do you abdicate responsibility?*

*Think about different people in your life. Who do you disengage from?*

*What sorts of things do you fail to follow through on? Not stay committed to?*

2. Men can be \_\_\_\_\_

- “Toxic masculinity”

*Where are you inclined to be aggressive?*

*Where and when do you attack? Certain times of the day or the week?*

*When do you grab the reigns? When do you treat others in ways to get what you want?*

*Think about different people in your life. Who do you tend to treat more like an object?*

- Either of these sins leads down a path of death (Rom 5:17)

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**God’s saving work: Renewal**

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- God was not:
  - Passive: God did not leave you (Col 1:13, 21-23)
  - Nor destructively aggressive: God did not use his power to crush you (Col 2:13-15)
- Renewal: God made you new in and through Christ (Col 2:20-3:17)

- So put off the old nature and put on the new nature in the context of marriage:

*Col 3:19 Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them.*

*How do you want to actively lead the people you’re responsible for this week?*