

(5) Under "guilt" there are such nouns as chargeability, misdeed, offense, and guiltiness.

(6) Under "Impiety" there are such nouns as irreverence, godlessness, profaneness, and reprobation.

In Webster's *New World Dictionary* Third College Edition, the following definition is given for "sin."

- 1 a) an offense against God, religion, or good morals b) the condition of being guilty of continued offense against God, religion, or good morals
- 2 an offense against any law, standard, code, etc. (a sin against good taste)

2. In Old Testament Hebrew

In the Old Testament there are at least fourteen Hebrew words which may be translated by the general word "sin." Some of these words have specific nuances of meaning.

(1) ASHAM (אָשָׁם) -- "guilt, guilt offering, trespass offering". Used 45 times in the OT. Example: Isaiah 53:10 -- "But the Lord was pleased to crush Him, putting Him to grief. If He would render Himself as a guilt offering He will see His offspring, He will prolong His days, and the good pleasure of the Lord will prosper in His hand."

(2) ASHEM (אָשֵׁם) -- "guilty". Used 3 times in the OT. Example: Genesis 42:21 -- "Then they said to one another (Joseph's brothers), 'Truly we are guilty concerning our brother, because we saw the distress of his soul when he pleaded with us, yet we would not listen; therefore this distress has come upon us.' "

(3) ASHMAH (אָשְׂמָה) -- "trespass, guilt". Used 19 times in OT. Example: I Chron. 21:2-3 -- "So David said to Joab and to the princes of the people, 'Go, number Israel from Beersheba even to Dan, and bring me word that I may know their number.' And Joab said, 'May the Lord add to His people a hundred times as many as they are! But, my lord the king, are they not all my lord's servants? Why does my lord seek this thing? Why should he be a cause of guilt to Israel?' "

(4) AVEL (אָוֵל) -- "perverseness, perversity, unrighteousness, iniquity. Used 21 times in OT. Example: Ezekiel 33:15 "If a wicked man restores a pledge, pays back what he has taken by robbery, walks by the statutes which ensure life without committing iniquity he will surely live; he shall not die."

(5) AVLAH (אָוֵלָה) -- "perversity, perverseness". Used 29 times in OT. Example: Isaiah 59:3 -- "For your hands are