

3. In New Testament Greek

In the New Testament there are some eleven Greek words which may be translated by the general word "sin". Some of these have specific shades of meaning.

(1) HAMARTIA (ἁμαρτία) -- "the missing of a mark or aim". Used 174 times in NT. Example: Romans 3:20 -- "because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin".

(2) HAMARTEMA (ἁμαρτημά) -- "the missing of a mark or aim". Used 4 times in NT. Example: Romans 3:25 -- "whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed."

(3) PARABASIS (παράβασις) -- "the overpassing or transgressing of a line, the breaking of a distinctly recognized commandment." Used 7 times in NT. Example: Romans 4:15 -- "for the Law brings about wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there violation."

(4) PARAKOE (παράκοη) -- "disobedience to a voice". Used 3 times in NT. Example: Hebrews 2:2 -- "For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense,"

(5) PARAPTOMA (παράπτωμα) -- "a falling where one should have stood upright". Used 23 times in NT. Example: Romans 11:11-12 -- "I say then, they did not stumble so as to fall, did they? May it never be! But by their transgression salvation has come to the Gentiles, to make them jealous. Now if their transgression be riches for the world and their failure be riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their fulfillment be!"

(6) AGNOEMA (αγνοημά) "ignorance of what one ought to have known, with resultant error." Used once in NT. Hebrew 9:7 "but into the second only the high priest enters, once a year, not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins of the people committed in ignorance."

(7) HETTEMA (ἧττημα) -- "a diminishing of that which should have been rendered in full measure, a failure in duty." Used twice in NT. Example: I Corinthians 6:7 -- "Actually, then, it is already a defeat for you, that you have lawsuits with one another. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded?"

(8) ANOMIA (αννομία) -- "lawlessness, contempt of law, nonobservance of a law or laws". Used 14 times in NT. Example: II Thessalonians 2:7 -- "For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains will do so until he is taken out of the way."