

Question: I want to understand—is there such a thing as big sins and small sins? If not, will someone who kills be punished the same as someone who insults another person?

Answer: From a biblical perspective, sin is sin. Whether we label it as big or small, all sin is fundamentally a violation of God’s holy law and separates us from God (Isaiah 59:2). The Bible teaches that any sin, no matter how “small” it seems to us, makes us guilty before God.

James 2:10-11 states:

“For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. For he who said, ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ also said, ‘You shall not murder.’ If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.”

This means the law of God is perfect and indivisible. Breaking any part of it—even one command—makes a person guilty of breaking the entire law. This underscores the total depravity of

humanity—that all have sinned and fall short of God’s glory (Romans 3:23).

However, God’s justice is also perfect and takes into account the severity and knowledge of the sin. Jesus taught that the consequences or judgment vary depending on one’s actions and awareness.

Luke 12:47-48 explains:

“The servant who knows the master’s will and does not get ready or does what the master wants will be beaten with many blows. But the one who does not know and does things deserving punishment will be beaten with few blows. From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.”

This passage highlights God’s principle of proportional justice—those who knowingly reject God’s will face harsher judgment, while those ignorant receive lighter punishment. It also emphasizes human responsibility based on the knowledge and

gifts received.

Regarding eternal consequences, all sin leads to spiritual death and separation from God (Romans 6:23). But God offers the free gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ to those who repent and believe (John 3:16).

Therefore, while the Bible does not categorize sins as “big” or “small” in terms of their spiritual nature, the earthly and eternal consequences can vary. Both the severity of sin and the heart attitude matter.

Have you surrendered your life to Jesus Christ? These are the last days, and none of us know when our time will come. If you died today, where would your soul go? Turn to Jesus now, repent, and receive His forgiveness and eternal life.

God bless you.

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