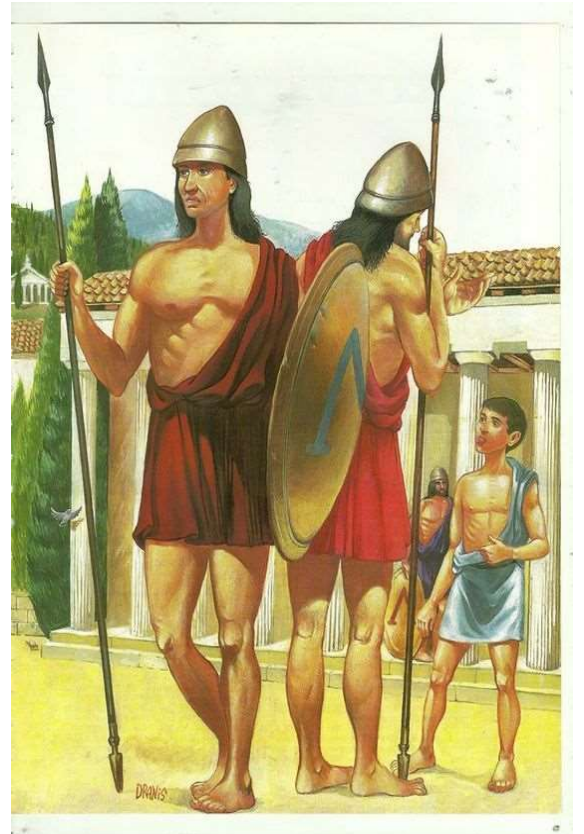


Sin: missing the path or missing the mark

1. The Old Testament was written in Hebrew, and one Hebrew word for sin meant “missing the path.” The origin of the word may be rooted in the pastoral lifestyle of the Israelites where pathways separated properties but allowed paths to open pastures or water. How does this figure of speech illustrate what sin is? Is this intentional or unintentional?



2. The New Testament was written in Greek, and the Greek transliteration of the above Hebrew word meant “missing the mark.” The origin of the word may be rooted in the warrior lifestyle of the Greeks. How does this figure of speech illustrate what sin is?



Sin: missing the path or missing the mark

Teacher Notes

As you read the question to the class, point or draw their attention to the images. Explain the images to the student so that they can gain a context to the questions. Explain what the word “transliteration” means.

1. The Old Testament was written in Hebrew, and one Hebrew word for sin meant “missing the path.” The origin of the word may be rooted in the pastoral lifestyle of the Israelites where pathways separated properties but allowed paths to open pastures or water. How does this figure of speech illustrate what sin is? Is this intentional or unintentional?

Ask the student: can you picture how God explains what sin is?

Shepherders, walking to the pastures or taking their flock, sometimes would wander off the path and trespass onto someone’s property.

Sin is like straying off God’s path intentionally or an unintentional mistake.

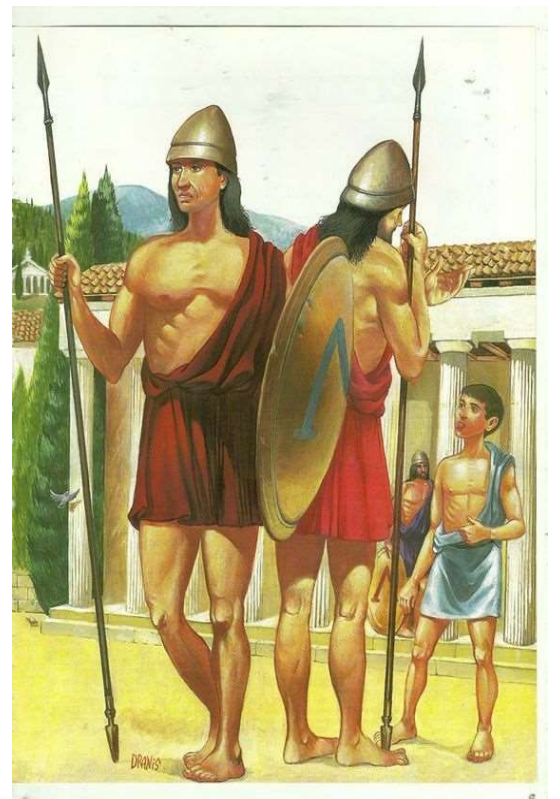


2. The New Testament was written in Greek, and the Greek transliteration of the above Hebrew word meant “missing the mark.” The origin of the word may be rooted in the warrior lifestyle of the Greeks. How does this figure of speech illustrate what sin is?

Ask the student: do you see the picture God is using to explain what sin is?

Missing the mark was in reference to a thrown spear missing its target.

Sin is not thinking and behaving on target with God’s word.



The Class Lesson for this Teacher Note is at:

<http://Helpmewithbiblestudy.org/25Curriculum/Class3-5/Sin.Nature.MissPathMark.3-5.aspx>