

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-23857-1 - The Origin and Propagation of Sin: Being the Hulsean Lectures Delivered Before the University of Cambridge in 1901–2

F. R. Tennant

Table of Contents

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
PREFACE TO FIRST EDITION	vii
PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION	xi
CONTENTS	xxxii

I.

THE PROBLEM OF THE ORIGIN AND PROPAGATION OF SIN :
ITS TREATMENT IN THEOLOGICAL DOCTRINE.

Purpose of the Lectures	1
Difficulties involved in subject and treatment	2
The Augustinian theory of Original Sin	4
Its depth of root in theological thought	5
Its alleged necessity as an explanation of human nature	7
Its basis the idea of a state of 'original righteousness'	10
Evolution supplies an alternative theory	11
The validity, not the services, of the old doctrine here impugned	12
Dissatisfaction with the doctrine	12
The truth and error in Pelagianism	13
The fundamental difficulty of the problem of Sin	15
The Augustinian view of moral solidarity	16
Its inadequacy	17
'Original Guilt' necessarily abandoned	20

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-23857-1 - The Origin and Propagation of Sin: Being the Hulsean Lectures Delivered Before the University of Cambridge in 1901-2

F. R. Tennant

Table of Contents

[More information](#)

xxxii

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Augustinianism reduced to assertion of physically inherited abnormality	21
Natural impulses wrongly called 'sinful'	23
Untenable implications of the Augustinian doctrine	24
(a) Original Righteousness	24
(b) Transition to the act of sin	27
(c) Disorder of human nature produced by sin	28
(d) Transmission of acquired disorder or sinful bias	31
(i) Traducianism—unphilosophical	31
(ii) Physical Heredity—unscientific	35
Conclusion	38

II.

THE PROBLEM OF THE ORIGIN AND PROPAGATION OF SIN:
ITS TREATMENT IN PHILOSOPHICAL SPECULATION.

The theological doctrine really speculative	40
Although considered apart from philosophy	41
The philosophical standpoint	42
History of the treatment of our problem by the Cartesian school	42
By Malebranche	43
„ Spinoza	44
„ Leibniz	46
„ Kant	50
„ Julius Müller	54
Development of the theory of Radical Evil by S. T. Coleridge	59
By Schelling and Schopenhauer	59
The Problem of Sin in Hegel	62
„ „ Lotze	66
„ „ Schleiermacher	68
„ „ Ritschl	72
Summary and conclusion	76

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-23857-1 - The Origin and Propagation of Sin: Being the Hulsean Lectures Delivered Before the University of Cambridge in 1901-2

F. R. Tennant

Table of Contents

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

xxxiii

III.

THE PROBLEM OF THE ORIGIN AND PROPAGATION OF SIN: ITS TREATMENT IN EMPIRICAL SCIENCE AND EVOLUTIONARY THEORY.

	PAGE
The problem hitherto intractable	78
Where reconstruction is necessary	80
Suggestions of Archdeacon Wilson	82
„ „ Prof. O. Pfeiderer	83
I. <i>The Origin of Sin in the Race</i>	85
Man an evolved being	86
Morality gradually developed	87
Evolution of conscience	88
The <i>fomes peccati</i> natural and normal	94
II. <i>The Origin of Sin in the Individual</i>	96
The psychology of infancy	96
Its negation of original sin	99
Our so-called 'propensities to evil' natural, non-moral, and neutral	100
And therefore not of the nature of sin	104
Moral evil non-existent before conscience	106
Conscience and morality derived from social environment	106
Prof. Baldwin's account of their growth	107
The real nature of sin	109
Its universality accounted for	111
Sin thus explained and not explained away	112
The old antinomy at last transcended	114

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-23857-1 - The Origin and Propagation of Sin: Being the Hulsean Lectures Delivered Before the University of Cambridge in 1901-2

F. R. Tennant

Table of Contents

[More information](#)

xxxiv

CONTENTS.

IV.

THEODICY: PRESUPPOSITIONS OF THE NEW THEORY.
CONCLUSION.

	PAGE
Recapitulation of the theory advanced	116
Transition to its underlying metaphysics	121
<i>Theodicy</i> to which it leads	121
I. God responsible for the possibility, man for the actuality, of sin	122
The ontology which Christian theodicy involves	124
Separateness of human from divine will	125
Limits to the divine immanence	125
The relation of man to God	127
Self-limitation of Omnipotence	132
Evil not teleological	133
II. The divine permission of evil necessary to a moral order and to Self-revelation	138
* * * *	
The prejudice against man's evolution	142
The relation of the new theory to Scripture	143
(a) The Fall-story of Gen. iii.	144
(b) S. Paul's teaching in Rom. v.	146
N.T. Scripture necessarily contains a transitory element	148
Theology necessarily in part temporary	149
Its need of the 'Critical Regress'	150
Appeal for critical study	151
Conclusion: The doctrine of the Fall no part of the Christian Revelation, but an accident of history	152

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-23857-1 - The Origin and Propagation of Sin: Being the Hulsean Lectures Delivered Before the University of Cambridge in 1901–2

F. R. Tennant

Table of Contents

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

xxxv

APPENDED NOTES.

TO LECTURE I.

	PAGE
A. The doctrine of Original Sin in the Christian Confessions	154
B. The ambiguous usage of the term 'sin' and its derivatives in theology: also of the term 'nature'	163
C. S. Augustine's 'Participation' theory of Original Guilt	177
D. On the heredity of acquired characters	179
E. Modern orthodox statements of the doctrine of the Fall: Sanday and Headlam; A. Moore	184

TO LECTURE II.

F. Malebranche (and Geulincx etc.) on Original Sin	187
G. Kant on the propensity to evil in man	193
H. Hegel on the Fall and Original Sin	197
J. Schleiermacher on Sin and Original Sin	206
K. Julius Müller's theory of the origin of sinfulness	209

TO LECTURE III.

L. Passage from O. Pfleiderer's <i>Philosophy of Religion</i> on the genesis of sin	214
M. Notice of statements of views similar to those advanced in Lect. III.: Rüetschi and W. Herrmann	220

TO LECTURE IV.

N. On the moral solidarity of the race	222
O. Dr Martineau on the limits of divine immanence in man	225
P. The doctrine of Original Sin in Holy Scripture	227
INDEX OF AUTHORS	233