

## The Concept of Sin (Paperback)



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### ***Reviews***

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***(Billy Christiansen)***

## THE CONCEPT OF SIN (PAPERBACK)



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St Augustine s Press, United States, 2001. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. In ordinary conversation, including among the educated , the word sin rarely gets mentioned except when one is trying to be coy or facetious. As Thomas Mann once said, sin is nowadays an amusing word used only when one is trying to get a laugh .But this small work will interpret sin in its true -- that is, serious -- meaning. What will emerge from its analysis is the discovery that the concept of sin can still serve to unlock the mystery of existence, at least for a thinking that wants to press down to the very foundations.Needless to say, such an effort will require a kind of mining energy of an archeologist of ideas who knows how to recover what was once known (or at least suspected) from time immemorial but has now been forgotten. But Josef Pieper does more than bring to bear on this issue his famous powers of excavation; he also makes meaningful the concept of sin to the ways of thinking and speaking of our time.Readers of his work already know Pieper as an extraordinarily fitting master in this art of making the wisdom of the ages a living reality today. And in this work he brings Plato, Augustine, and Thomas Aquinas into a living dialogue with T. S. Eliot, Andre Gide, even with Jean-Paul Sartre. As he shows in this powerful work, none of these writers leaves any doubt that the fact of sin is central: It is the willful denial of one s own life-ground, a denial that alone rightly bears the name of sin . Paradoxically, this reality is both willed and yet also pre-given, that is, both adventitious and yet somehow innate to our existence...



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