

What Is Sin? Lesson 3 – Total Depravity

Introduction:

- Two truths that teach us how much sin has affected everyone:

1. All people are sinful before God.

- All people are sinful without _____ !

Psa 14.3 *They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.*

Psa 143.2b *For no one living is righteous before you.*

1 Kings 8.46b *For there is no one who does not sin*

Rom 3.10–12 *as it is written:*

“None is righteous, no, not one;

*11 no one understands;
no one seeks for God.*

*12 All have turned aside; together they have become worthless;
no one does good,
not even one.”*

Rom 3.23 *For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,*

- That means that the ultimate standard of goodness is the holy character of God.
- When we compare our earthly goodness to His holy character, we realize that we are actually corrupt to the very _____ !

2. The Bible teaches that all people are _____ depraved (corrupt)!

A. This does not mean that people are as sinful as they could _____ be.

- Even the most wicked people in the world could still be even _____ sinful.

B. To be totally depraved means that _____ of our being is corrupted by sin.

- Our minds
- Our emotions
- Our desires

- Our wills and decisions
- Our goals and motives
- Our physical bodies

Eph 4.17–19 *Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their **minds**. 18 They are darkened in their **understanding**, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of **heart**. 19 They have become callous and have given themselves up to **sensuality**, greedy to practice every kind of **impurity**.*

C. We are so corrupted by sin, that we are unable to do anything that is _____.

Rom 3.12 *All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.”*

- Two things must be take place for a work to be considered truly good:

- It must be done according to God’s _____.

Rom 7.12 *So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.*

- It must be done to the _____ of God.

Matt 22.37 *And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.*

- Our best works are corrupted by our impure _____.

Rom 8.7–8 *For the mind that is set on the flesh is **hostile** to God, for it **does not submit to God’s law**; indeed, it cannot. 8 Those who are in the flesh **cannot please God**.*

Luke 18.19 *No one is good except God alone.*

D. We are so corrupted by sin, that we are unable to _____ anything that is good.

Rom 3.10–11 *as it is written:*

“None is righteous, no, not one;

11 no one understands;

no one seeks for God.

- Jesus said that that the reason He came to the earth as a man was to seek _____.

Luke 19.10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

Prov 28.1b The wicked flee when no one pursues,

- People do not seek God, they seek the _____ that only God can give them!
- Apart from the working of the Holy Spirit within us, we don't even have the _____ to seek the Lord to be saved.

John 6.44 **No one can** come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him.

John 6.65 And he said, “This is why I told you that **no one can** come to me unless it is granted him by the Father.”

- The most powerful evidence that we are totally unable to even desire what is good is in the fact that the Bible says that we are _____ in our sins.

Eph 2.1 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins

- You cannot _____ someone to become a Christian, just as you cannot raise someone from the dead.
- Unbelievers cannot even believe on Jesus until God _____ works in their heart.

Rom 1.16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for **it is the power of God** for salvation to everyone who believes,

1 Cor 3.6–7 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. 7 So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.

Eph 2.4–6 **But God**, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 **even when we were dead** in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—6 and **raised us up with him** and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

Eph 2.8–9 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Eph 2.10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus **for good works**, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Eph 4.22–24 to put off your **old self**, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, 23 and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, 24 and to put on the **new self**, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

Conclusion:

1 John 1.8 *If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

Rom 7.18 *For I know that nothing good dwells in me,*

2 Cor 5.21 *For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*