

Genesis 6:5

MAN'S TOTAL DEPRAVITY

- I. The depravity.
 - A. Total depravity means that man's nature is corrupt, perverse, and sinful throughout.
 1. The unregenerate man is dead in sin, and his will is enslaved to his evil nature (Eph. 2:1-3).
 2. Zacchaeus was "lost" in sin, i.e., in a wretched and hopeless spiritual condition, unworthy to be saved (Luke 19:10).
 - B. Through his willful fall into sin, Adam brought spiritual death on himself and all his posterity (Rom. 5:12; I Cor. 15:22).
 1. David confessed that he, as all other humans, was born into the sphere of sin (Ps. 51:5; 58:3).
 2. If any human is to be God's child and enter His kingdom, they must be born anew by the Spirit (John 3:5-7).
 - C. Consequently, man's will is no longer free, but as a result of inherited depravity is in bondage to his sinful nature.
- II. The extent of the depravity.
 - A. The reign of sin is universal, i.e., all are under its power; no one is righteous (I Kings 8:46; Ps. 143:2; Eccl. 7:20; Rom. 3:9-12).
 - B. "Total" means: the whole of man's being (every faculty) is completely affected by sin **and** everyone is as sinful as they can be.
 1. Scripture teaches that natural man is totally unable to do anything spiritually good.
 2. Man sins in everything he does.
- III. Man's only hope is that Jesus came to save the lost, sinners, the ungodly.
 - A. For a lost sinner to be saved, the Spirit must perform a rebirth, powerfully making the dead to be alive (John 3:3-6).
 1. This power has to come from outside the man, in fact, outside of the human race.
 2. Jesus came to seek the lost in order to save them.
 - B. When we look at ourselves and our children, then salvation has to be nothing less than a work of the Almighty by His Spirit.