

Message Notes

Total Depravity

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Introduction – Party like it's 1517!!

A new sub-series:
"Seven Flames that were rekindled"

Who is John Calvin and a (very!) short history of TULIP

Today's message:
Total Depravity:

Tainted Image Bearers in Need of a Savior

A Theology of Total Depravity

How Sin Entered the World

Genesis 3:1-24

From Birth?
Psalm 51:5

New Testament views on Sin
Romans 1:18-25

Ephesians 2:1-3

Our NEED (and God's response) of a Savior
Ephesians 2:4-5

see also - Hebrews 10:11-25

Implications of Total Depravity

1. We NEED Jesus
2. Nothing is the way it should be
3. The American Prosperity Gospel
4. How we relate to the rest of the world
5. Our need of one another
(Hebrews 3:12-13)

Gospel Application - *Do you acknowledge your helplessness and hopelessness without Christ? How does that play out in your relationships with others?*

Genesis 3

Psalms 51:5

Surely I was sinful from birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

Romans 1:18-25

¹⁸The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, ¹⁹since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰For since the creation of the world God's invisible

qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. ²¹For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.

²²Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles. ²⁴Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ²⁵They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

Ephesians 2:1-5

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ²in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. ⁴But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25

¹¹Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹²But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³and since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool. ¹⁴For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy...

¹⁹Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 3:12-13

¹²See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. ¹³But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.



MARTIN LUTHER

**POSTING RANTS LONG
BEFORE FACEBOOK**



1517



2017

AMAZING GRACE

The Reformation to the Glory of God

THE REDISCOVERY OF THE GOSPEL

FIVE



SOLAS

AMAZING GRACE

The Reformation to the Glory of God



SEVEN GOSPEL

FLAMES REKINDLED

AMAZING GRACE

The Reformation to the Glory of God

Last Week's Message:

Creation: Created the way God wanted it to be



JOHN CALVIN – REFORMER

- Born July, 10, 1509 in Noyon, France
 - Studies to be a lawyer 1523-1529
 - Converted to Christ in 1529/1530
- Persecution in France, went to Basel, Switzerland – publishes first edition of *Institute of the Christian Religion* in 1536
 - July 1536 he moves to Geneva to become the pastor of the church there
 - Persecution breaks out there, so he moves to Strasborg, France in 1538
 - Moves back to Geneva Sept 1541
 - May 27th, 1564, John Calvin dies



To this pursuit [of the study of law] I endeavored faithfully to apply myself, in obedience to the will of my father; but God, by the secret guidance of His providence, at length gave a different direction to my course. At first, since I was too obstinately devoted to the superstitions of popery to be easily extricated from so profound an abyss of mire, God by a sudden conversion subdued and brought my mind to a teachable frame, which was more hardened in such matters than might have been expected from one at my early period of life. Having thus



received some taste and knowledge of true godliness, I was immediately inflamed with so intense a desire to make progress therein, that although I did not altogether leave off other studies, I yet pursued them with less ardor.

~ John Calvin, *Preface to Commentary on the Book of Psalms* (1557)



TOTAL DEPRAVITY

UNCONDITIONAL
ELECTION

LIMITED ATONEMENT

IRRESISTIBLE GRACE

PERSISTENCE OF
THE SAINTS



THE
5
OF
POINTS
BEARD MINI **ISM**



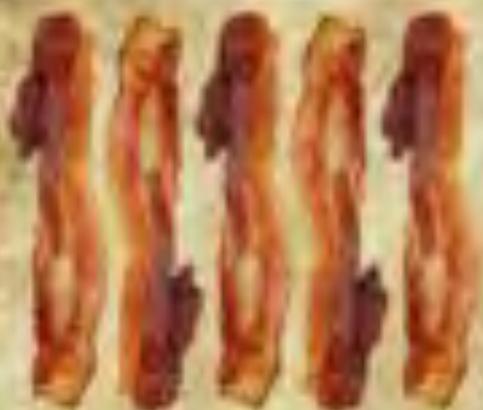
BEARDEDGOSPELMEN.COM

TOTAL AWESOMENESS
UNCONDITIONAL GROWTH
LIMITED TRIMMING
IRRRESISTIBLE MANLINESS
PERSEVERANCE OF THE
WHISKERS

B . A . C . O . N

Is The New TULIP

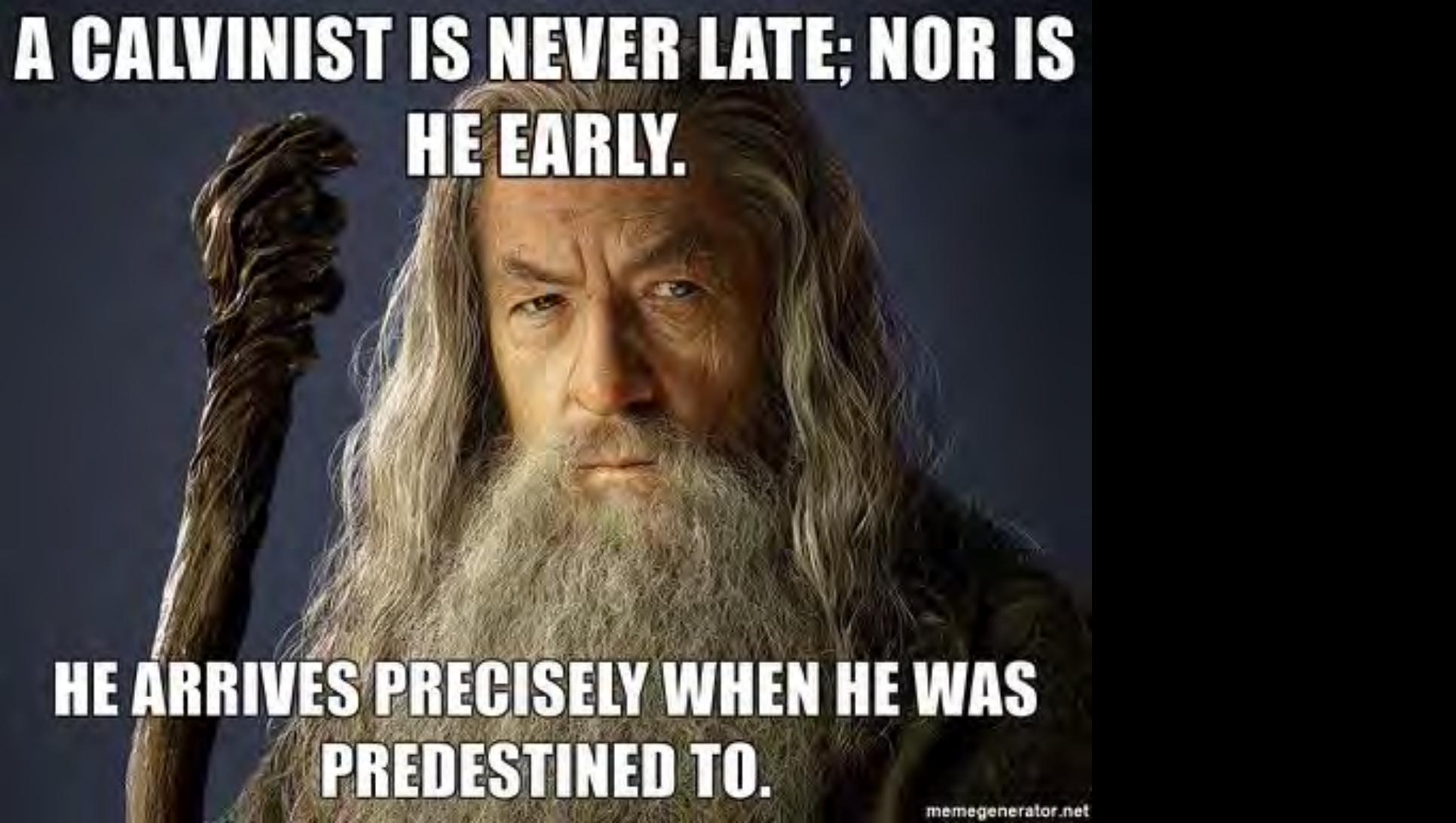
FIVE STRIP BACONIST



*Bad people
Already elected
Completely atoned for
Overwhelmingly called
Never falling away.*

M meticulous providence
U unconditional election
P particular redemption
P perseverance of the saints
E effectual grace
T total depravity





**A CALVINIST IS NEVER LATE; NOR IS
HE EARLY.**

**HE ARRIVES PRECISELY WHEN HE WAS
PREDESTINED TO.**



I'm
predestined
to be an
Arminian



ARMINIANISM

When God's Providence and Security are just not enough

LOVE • CONFESSIONS • ROMANCE

Calvinist **ROMANCE**



HEY BABE

**I'D REARRANGE 'TULIP' TO
PUT 'U' AND 'I' TOGETHER**

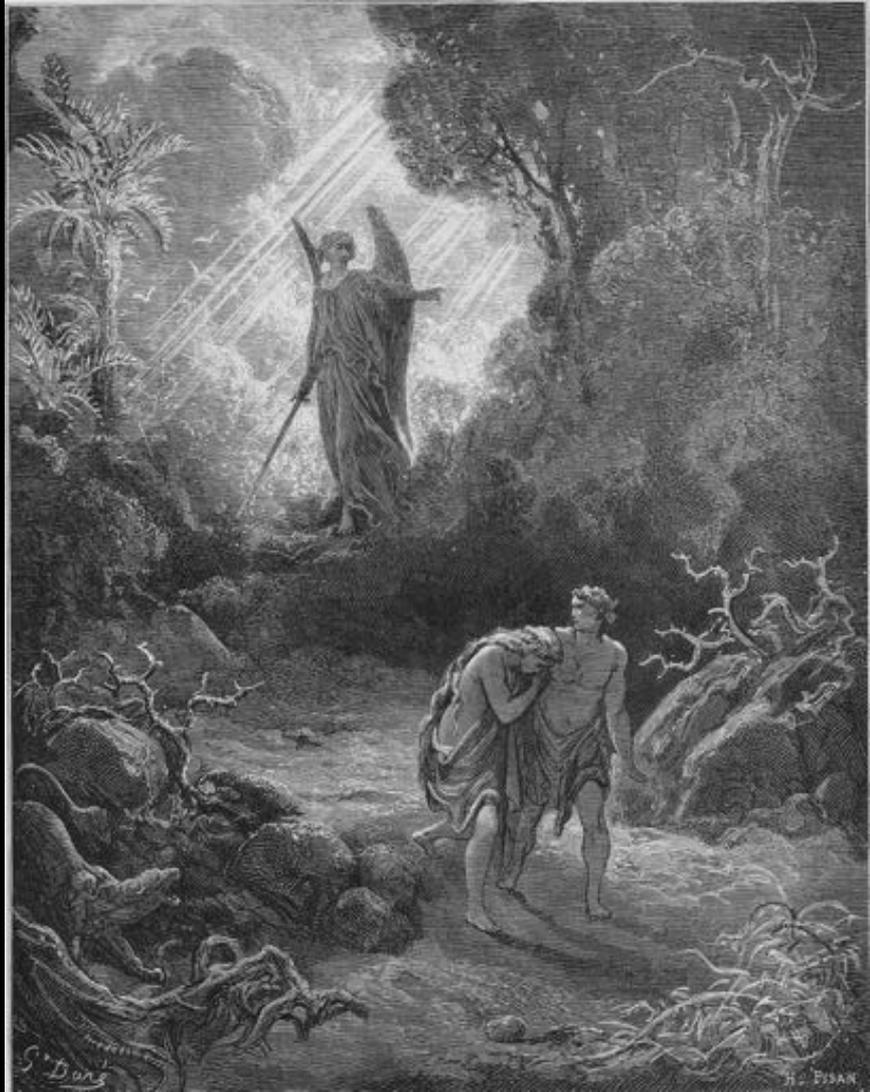
Today's Message:
Total Depravity:
Tainted Image Bearers
in Need of a Savior

A grayscale photograph showing a person's hands gripping vertical metal prison bars. The person's face is partially visible behind the bars, looking directly at the camera. The text "Total Depravity" is overlaid in the center of the image in a black, serif font.

Total Depravity

Hamartiology:

The study of sin



*A Theology of
Total Depravity*

How Sin entered the world



How Sin entered the world

1. The One and Only Law Given to Adam



How Sin entered the world

1. The One and Only Law Given to Adam

Genesis 2:16, 17

¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man,
“You are free to eat from any tree in the
garden; ¹⁷but you must not eat from the tree
of the knowledge of good and evil, for when
you eat of it you will surely die.”



How Sin entered the world

2. The One and Only Law is Broken by Adam and Eve



How Sin entered the world

2. The One and Only Law is Broken by Adam and Eve

Genesis 3:1-6

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?” ²The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³but God did say,



How Sin entered the world

2. The One and Only Law is Broken by Adam and Eve

Genesis 3:1-6

“You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.”¹ “You will not surely die,”² the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”³

⁴When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.



The effect of sin in the world

1. Shame

Genesis 3:7-10

⁷Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

⁸Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

¹⁰He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."



The effects of sin in the world

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The effects of sin in the world

2. Blame

Genesis 3:11-13

¹¹And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

¹²The man said, “The woman you put here with me – she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.” ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”



The effects of sin in the world

3. Spiritual war on the earth

Genesis 3:14-15

¹⁴So the LORD God said to the serpent,
“Because you have done this, “Cursed are
you above all livestock and all wild animals!
You will crawl on your belly and you will
eat dust all the days of your life. ¹⁵And I will
put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers; he will
crush your head, and you will strike
his heel.”

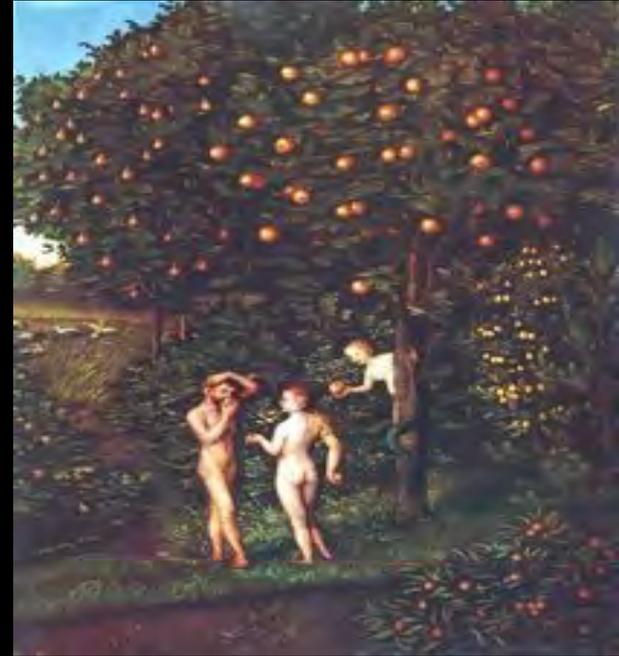


The effects of sin in the world

4. Relational Strife

Genesis 3:16

¹⁶To the woman he said, “I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”



The effects of sin in the world

6. The Ground is under a curse

Genesis 3:17-18

¹⁷To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat from it,’ “Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. ¹⁸It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.



The effects of sin in the world

7. Death entered the world

Genesis 3:19

¹⁹By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.”



The effects of sin in the world

8. Grace in this new world

Genesis 3:20-22

²⁰Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.

²¹The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. ²²And

the LORD God said, “The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever.”



The effects of sin in the world

9. Banishment from Eden and the immediate presence of God

Genesis 3:23-24

²³So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. ²⁴After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.



A Theology of Sin

From Birth?!?!?!?

Psalm 51:5

Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

New Testament Theology of Sin

Romans 1:18-25

¹⁸The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, ¹⁹since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. ²¹For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.

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²⁵They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped and served created things rather than the Creator — who is for ever praised. Amen.

New Testament Theology of Sin

Ephesians 2:1-3

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ²in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

Our need (and God's response) of a Savior!!

Ephesians 2:4-5

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ²in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. ⁴But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions — it is by grace you have been saved.

Original sin, therefore, appears to be a hereditary, depravity and corruption of our nature, diffused through all the parts of the soul, rendering us obnoxious to the divine wrath and producing in us those works which the scripture calls 'works of [the flesh]... For our nature is not merely bereft of good, but is so productive of every kind of evil that it cannot be inactive. Those who have called it concupiscence [a strong, especially sexual desire, lust] have used a word by no means wide of the mark, if it were added (and this is what many do not concede) that whatever is in man from intellect to will, from the soul to the flesh, is all defiled and crammed with concupiscence; or, to sum it up briefly, that the whole man is in himself nothing but concupiscence. . . .



~ John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, Book II. chap. I



CHARLES SPURGEON

1834–1892



“We declare on scriptural authority that the human will is so desperately set on mischief, so depraved, so inclined to everything that is evil, and so disinclined to everything that is good, that without the powerful, supernatural, irresistible influence of the Holy Spirit, no human will will ever be constrained toward Christ.



As the salt flavors every drop in the Atlantic, so does sin affect every atom of our nature. It is so sadly there, so abundantly there, that if you cannot detect it, you are deceived...The venom of sin is in the very fountain of our being; it has poisoned our heart. It is in the very marrow of our bones and is as natural to us as anything that belongs to us.

~ Charles Spurgeon, as quoted in Steven Lawson's, *The Gospel Focus of Charles Spurgeon*



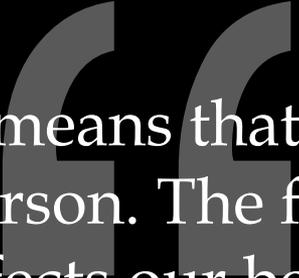


The doctrine of total depravity reflects the Reformed viewpoint of original sin. That term — *original sin* — is often misunderstood in the popular arena. Some people assume that the term *original sin* must refer to the first sin — the original transgression that we've all copied in many different ways in our own lives, that is, the first sin of Adam and Eve. But that's not what *original sin* has referred to historically in the church. Rather, the doctrine of original sin defines the consequences to the human race because of that first sin.

Virtually every church historically that has a creed or a confession has agreed that something very serious happened to the human race as a result of the first sin — that first sin resulted in original sin. That is, as a result of the sin of Adam and Eve, the entire human race fell, and our nature as human beings since the fall has been influenced by the power of evil. As David declared in the Old Testament, “Oh, God, I was born in sin, and in sin did my mother conceive me” (Ps. 51:5). He was not saying that it was sinful for his mother to have borne children; neither was he saying that he had done something evil by being born. Rather, he was acknowledging the human condition of fallenness — that condition that was part of the experience of his parents, a condition that he himself brought into this world. Therefore, original sin has to do with the fallen nature of mankind. The idea is that we are not sinners because we sin, but that we sin because we are sinners.



In the Reformed tradition, total depravity does not mean *utter depravity*. We often use the *term* total as a synonym for *utter* or for *completely*, so the notion of total depravity conjures up the idea that every human being is as bad as that person could possibly be. You might think of an archfiend of history such as Adolf Hitler and say there was absolutely no redeeming virtue in the man, but I suspect that he had some affection for his mother. As wicked as Hitler was, we can still conceive of ways in which he could have been even more wicked than he actually was. So the idea of *total* in total depravity doesn't mean that all human beings are as wicked as they can possibly be.

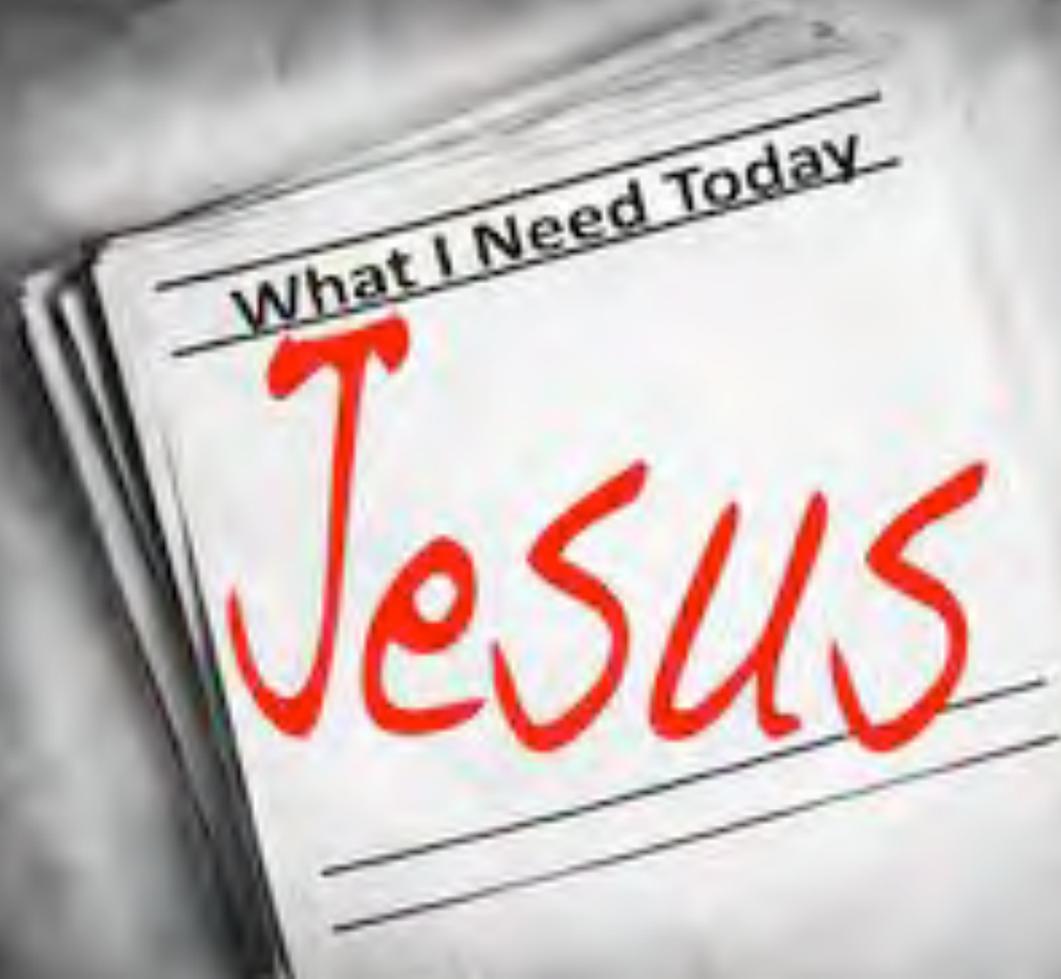


It means that the fall was so serious that it affects the whole person. The fallenness that captures and grips our human nature affects our bodies; that's why we become ill and die. It affects our minds and our thinking; we still have the capacity to think, but the Bible says the mind has become darkened and weakened. The will of man is no longer in its pristine state of moral power. The will, according to the New Testament, is now in bondage. We are enslaved to the evil impulses and desires of our hearts. The body, the mind, the will, the spirit—indeed, the whole person—have been infected by the power of sin.

I like to replace the term *total depravity* with my favorite designation, which is *radical corruption*. Ironically, the word *radical* has its roots in the Latin word for “root,” which is *radix*, and it can be translated *root* or *core*. The term *radical* has to do with something that permeates to the core of a thing. It’s not something that is tangential or superficial, lying on the surface. The Reformed view is that the effects of the fall extend or penetrate to the core of our being. Even the English word *core* actually comes from the Latin word *cor*, which means “heart.” That is, our sin is something that comes from our hearts. In biblical terms, that means it’s from the core or very center of our existence.

*Implications of
Total Depravity*

We NEED God to act in Jesus Christ!!



Nothing is the way it should be. It is that "fouled" up!



DOUBLE FACEPALM

FOR WHEN ONE FACEPALM DOESN'T CUT IT

The American Prosperity Gospel - Joel Lawrence



How we relate to the rest of the world – Jeff Gauss



How we relate to the rest of the world – Jeff Gauss



Church in the city
evil to avoid

How we relate to the rest of the world – Jeff Gauss



Church against the city
enemy to fight

How we relate to the rest of the world – Jeff Gauss



Church of the city
maiden to embrace

How we relate to the rest of the world – Jeff Gauss



Church into the city
problem to solve

How we relate to the rest of the world – Jeff Gauss



Church for the city
friend that needs help

Our need of one another

Hebrews 3:12-13

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Gospel Application:

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How does that play out in your relationships with others?