

Work of Christ on the Cross

By Pastor Nick Bibile

Work of Christ is all by grace alone, however we will not understand the greatness of God's grace if we first study sin and depravity of God.

Original Sin

How many of you believe that Adam's sin affected only Adam, not the human race? How many of you believe that the fallen man, unbelievers are spiritually sick?

Pelagius was a British monk who lived in the 4th century; he rejected original/inherited sin. Adams sin affected only Adam, others who are born after Adam are innocent in their birth and later on when they grow up, they have a free choice to sin or not. He believed there is no need for divine grace and man has the capacity to do the will of God. The Church ex-communicated Pelagius in 417 AD Augustine defended the church against the Pelagius heresy. Augustine believed that mankind is incapable of raising itself from the spiritual death, just like an empty glass cannot fill it self with water. Grace of God is needed for salvation. The Pelagian heresy was officially condemned at the council of Ephesus in 431, one year after Augustines death. (See Christian History Vol.6 No.3 by Philip Schaff)

Semi-Pelagianism believes in the fall of man and the nature of man is changed by the fall. They believe the fallen sinner is not totally dead spiritually but only sick. The sinner still has an inherent goodness and righteousness. They believe that salvation is by Gods grace but the sinner has the ability to cooperate with Gods grace, this is done by the exercise of his will. Everyone sitting here is a protestant Christian, protestants were born out of the Reformation, in the beginning they did not believe in Semi Pelagianism, however today the majority of the churches are Semi-Pelagians in their doctrine. Most of you sitting here today, you many not know the word Semi-Pelagianism, however may be ignorantly you believe in Semi Pelagian doctrine that was condemned at the Synod of Orange in 529 A. D.

We don't grow in our opinions but we grow in trusting in God's word and being obedience to God's word. When your wonderful opinions contradict with the scriptures, your opinions are thrown out of the window but the word of God is eternal.

What do you mean by original sin? Sin is not eternal; it had a beginning. God made man good, without sin, innocent, holy and righteous. When we say God made man good, it doesn't mean God made man infinitely good, then man would be a god, God almighty made man without sin. We are talking of original sin in humanity. Where do you find a good scripture for original sin?

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through **one man**, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned

"And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation" (Acts 17:26)

Did death come only to Adam?

Sin entered the human race by one man, Adam. How come it's not through Eve as she is the one ate the forbidden fruit first? Because Eve was not the federal head of humanity, it was Adam. Also God gave the commandment to Adam not to eat of the forbidden fruit, also Eve was made out of Adam.

Adam was the natural father or the head of the human race, every single one of us came from Adam. Adam represented all humanity. We were all in Adam. If your grandfather died at the age of 8, where will you be? Will you be alive today? The word Adam means mankind, humanity, Adam represented all mankind, all mankind was in Adam, united with him. (Remember in Adam)

The federal headship of Adam explains that Adam's sin was imputed (charged) to the whole human race. "*For as by one man's disobedience many were **made** sinners...*" (Rom. 5:19). Adam was acting for the whole race and what he did was charged to all his descendants. This is the only way to explain the death of infants. Infants die because of Adams' sin.

Psalm 51:1. "Behold I was shapen in iniquity and in sin did my mother conceive me."

Little infant born babies look very innocent, so does the little lion cubs, those little lion cubs looks so innocent when they are small, sucking their mothers milk and playing, they look very cute. They look cute and innocent because they are

small, but wait till they grow up, they will become a roaring lion trying to devour even humans.

It's the same with a little baby, they look innocent but wait till they can talk, the first thing they say is 'No' they want to do just the opposite thing, you don't have to tell a little child how to be disobedient, it's in their nature. This is the inherited sin. We are all born into sin.

In Genesis 2:17 God told Adam, "...but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die." But as soon as Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating the fruit, that image of God was shattered, lost fellowship with God as sin entered man became un-holy and un-righteous. There first child Cain was a murderer, this was the result of the sin. Sin created a gap between God and man, a gap that man is incapable of bridging.

Give me another name for original sin? Inherited sin. How many of you believe that man is spiritually sick? Can you give me a scripture to show that man is spiritually sick? You can't find one because there aren't any, on the other hand it says man is spiritually dead, there is a big difference between a sick person and a dead person. Some believe the fall of Adam is kind of little, like Adam breaking his little finger. Even Billy Graham said, man is spiritually sick. If a man is very popular and famous are we going to believe everything what they say? Need to be like the Bereans.

C.H. Spurgeon said the following.

"If Peter were here to preach to-night, he would not tell us that man, though he is a little fallen, is a noble creature still, who needs only a little assistance, and he will be quite able to right himself. Oh, the fearful flattery which has been heard from some pulpits!"

If you are spiritually sick or little fallen you need only a just medicine, a little assistance, then why our beloved Savior Christ Jesus, the very God in heaven had to leave his throne, become a servant and die on the cross, if it was only a spiritual sickness. No man is spiritually dead. That's what my Bible tells and your Bible tells, don't be deceive what everything comes from the pulpit.

What did sin do to Adam?

1. He died spiritually.
2. He died physically

What are the results of spiritual death?

- a) He lost fellowship with God.
- b) He lost the ability to communicate with God.
- c) He lost the ability to be righteous before God.

Give me some scriptures for spiritual death?

"As you were dead in your transgressions and sins," (Eph.2:1) Also Colossians 2:13.

Effects of the original sin (Total Depravity)

The result of the spiritual death is total depravity. It means his body, mind, soul and the will was corrupted by sin. Every part of man was corrupted by sin.

Genesis 8:21. "The imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth."

Job 14:4. "Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean?"

Job 15:14. "What is man that he should be clean and he that is born of woman that he should be righteous?"

John 3:6. "That which is born of the flesh is flesh."

Jer 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; Who can know it?

Ephesians 2:3. "We were by nature the children of wrath even as others."

Rom 6:17 But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin

Rom 7:18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh.

Rom 5:10 For if while we were enemies

Matthew 15: 18 But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. 19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. 20 These are what defile a person. But to eat with unwashed hands does not defile anyone.

So beloved, when you look at total depravity it is impossible for man to get saved, if man is saved it's by God's grace alone.

Is there anyone righteous from God's standard?

No One Is Righteous

9 What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, 10 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

The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that comes from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he

Jonathan Edwards says upon this passage, “If the words which the Apostle uses here (Romans 3:10-19) signifies universal sin of man. I will challenge anyone to produce any one paragraph in the Bible from the beginning to the end that strongly says with repetition the absolute universal sin of man. It repeats “They are all,” “they are all,” “they are all-together,” “every one,” “all the world;” joined to multiplied negative terms, to show the universality to be without exception; saying, “There is no flesh,” “there is none, there is none, there is none, there is none,” four times over; besides the addition of “no, not one — no, not one,” once and again, it is very clear talking of total depravity of man.

C.H. Spurgeon said, “Oh, the depravity of our nature! Some doubt whether it is total depravity. It deserves a worse adjective than that. There is no word in human language which can express the venom of the enmity of man to his God and Savior.”

cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.” (1Cor.2:14)

Transgression of the Law

If a man comes to you knowing that you are a strong Christian, then tell you I want to have eternal life? What would you tell him?

Let’s see what Jesus did when someone asked him this question.

Mat 19:16 And behold, a man came up to him, saying, “ Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?” 17 And he said to him, “ Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments.” 18 He said to him, “ Which ones?” And Jesus said, “ You shall not murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, 19 Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” 20 The young man said to him, “ All these I have kept. What do I still lack?” 21 Jesus said to him, “ If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” 22 When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

Oh, by the way here is one place where Jesus failed to win a soul. No, Jesus didn't fail but successful by exposing the man's sins by using the Ten Commandments.

Jesus came to save us from our sins not from our feelings. No one would have ever bothered to look at the brazen serpent, if he had not first been bitten by a snake and knew that he was in danger of death. In the same way no one will look to Christ, unless they are convicted of their sins against God and they will perish if Christ does not save them. The Ten Commandments is the school master showing your sins

Ga 3:24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster *to bring us* unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

John Own the great puritan theologian said which I am going to paraphrase; those who were bitten by the serpents were healed by looking to the brazen serpent, which Moses made. First, one have to be bitten by the poisonous serpents, and then they will look up to the brazen serpent to be healed. Unbelievers need to be bitten, realizing they have sinned against the holy majestic God and the wrath of God is coming then only they will look for mercy and grace to be saved. How we need to point sinners to the Savior Jesus Christ.

John 3:14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

If you ask someone today, what is sin? Sin is breaking God's law. (1 John 3:4)
How do you know that you are a sinner?

Romans 7: 7 What shall we say then? *Is* the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "*You shall not covet.*"

Romans 7:9 I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died.

Now let us take the Ten Commandments. Have you broken any of them? You may say, I have sinned a little but I am not that bad. Let us see in the light of God's law where you stand. Answer these questions honestly. Have you ever lied? Yes? How many lies do you have to tell to become a liar? Yes, just one lie.

Now you are a liar. Have you ever stolen something in your life? Yes? How many times you have to steal to become a thief? Yes, only once. Now you are a thief. Have you ever committed adultery? You may say no. But Jesus said, *"But I say unto you, that whosoever look on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart."* (**Matthew 5:28**) Have you ever lusted after someone in your heart? Yes? Now you are an adulterer. We may be honorable among our fellow men but God looks at the heart and our motives. *"All the ways of a man are clean in his own sight, But the LORD weighs the motives"* (**Proverbs 16:2**). Now by God's standard, you are a liar, a thief, and an adulterer. Have you ever setup an idol or statue? It could be an image, a saint, a Hollywood star, a sports star, wealth, material things or anything you have love and devotion to more than to the Lord Jesus Christ. Yes? Then you are an idolater (**Ephesians 5:5-6**). Have you ever cursed the name of God, mocked at God, blasphemed God's name, murmured at God, used God's name in idle conversation or taken the name of God in vain? Yes? Then you are guilty and accountable to the Holy Majestic God in breaking the third commandment (**Exodus 20:7**).

Now my friend what is the conclusion? The Bible says there is no one who is good, not even one! From God's standard, all have sinned. *"There is none righteous, no, not one."* (**Romans 3:10**); *"There is none that does good, no, not one."* (**Romans 3:11**); By keeping God's Law no human being will be justified (be found "not guilty") in God's sight for by the Law comes the knowledge of sin. (**Romans 3:20**); The Bible says that the whole world stands guilty before God. (**Romans 3:19**); *"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we say we have no sin, we make God a liar."* (**1 John 1:10**) God's commandment has exposed your heart and has shown that you are a sinner. All these years you have been blinded by the enemy, Satan, (**2 Corinthians 4:3-4**) and you did not have any shame or guilt before God. *"The heart of man is deceitful above things and desperately wicked."* (**Jeremiah 17:9**) You have heard that God is loving, yes he is, but God also will not compromise with sin. The Lord will not leave the guilty to go unpunished (**Nahum 1:3**). If the judge in your town or city allows all the lawbreakers to go free, while telling the community, "I am a loving and a good judge, that's why I am allowing the lawbreakers to go free", then is he really a good judge? No, a good judge will punish the lawbreakers. God is the Judge of the Universe and he will punish the sinners who have broken his Law. *"God is a righteous judge, a God who expresses his wrath everyday."* (**Psalms 7:11**) Let us not forget how the justice of God was displayed during the time of the flood (**Genesis 6:5-7**), and how God rained fire and brimstone out of heaven upon men because of sin (**Genesis 19:23- 25**), and how the earth opened her mouth to swallow the lawbreakers (**Numbers 16**), how the Lord buried Nineveh (**Nahum**)

and how God slew Ananias and Sapphira (**Acts 5:1-11**). God is just and sin must be punished.

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