

The Doctrines of Grace

The Fall and State of Mankind

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1

How did God create man?

- Read Genesis 1:26-31

2

How did God create man?

- He created us with His word
 - His word has effective power over us
 - See Psalm 19:7-11

3

“

Isaiah 55:10–11 (ESV)

*10 “For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,*

*making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,*

*11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,*

*but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.*

”

4

“

2 Timothy 3:14–17 (ESV)

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

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5

Imago Dei

- God created us in His image (Gen. 1:26-27)
- What does it mean to be made in the image of God?

6

“

Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice.

”

Baptist Faith and Message, Chapter III

7

“

After God had made all other creatures, He created man, male and female, with reasonable and immortal souls, rendering them fit unto that life to God for which they were created; being made after the image of God, in knowledge, righteousness, and true holiness; having the law of God written in their hearts, and power to fulfill it, and yet under a possibility of transgressing, being left to the liberty of their own will, which was subject to change.

”

The 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith, Chapter 4, Paragraph 2

8

What did God give man in creation?

- Dominion over the Earth
- Gave them the ability to pro-create and fill the Earth
- He gave them the plants for food

9

Condition of His Creation

- Gen. 1:31 – “God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.
- His Creation was very good and He saw that man was very good

10

Creation of the Woman

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- Read Genesis 2:18-25
 - What was not good?
 - What was the man's response when He saw the woman?
 - Why do you think that God waited to create the woman in such a way?

11

Rules for Man

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- What rules did God give the man?
 - Genesis 2:15-17
 - What was the punishment for breaking this rule?
 - This rule that God gave Adam has been often referred to as the “Covenant of Works” or the “Covenant of Creation”

12

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Q. 16. What special act of providence did God exercise towards man, in the estate wherein he was created?

A. When God had created man, He entered into a covenant of works with him, upon condition of perfect obedience, forbidding him to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, upon pain of death.

”

The Baptist Catechism (Commonly called Keach's Catechism)

13

“

Of the first Covenant.

The first covenant was made between God and man, before man had sinned in eating of the forbidden fruit, in which covenant God required of man perfect obedience to all the commands thereof, and in case he did so obey he promised to be his God...

”

The Orthodox Creed (1679), General Baptist Creed

14

“

Hosea 6:7 (ESV)

⁷ *But like Adam they transgressed the covenant;
there they dealt faithlessly with me.*

”

15

Rules for Man

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- One of the major objections to the “Covenant of Works” is that people say it teaches a works-based righteousness and that Adam could maintain his righteousness apart from grace
 - This may be more a failing of the title than anything because “Covenant of Works” does *not* mean that Adam could earn anything apart from faith or grace
 - Adam did not have to earn righteousness for he was created in a righteous state
 - Nor could Adam fulfill the covenant apart from faith; had He fully trusted in God, He would not have sinned
 - If we think about this in terms of Adam and Christ (the new Adam), Christ fulfilled the “Covenant of Works” (The Law) where Adam could not

16

The Fall

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- Read Genesis 3
 - What was their sin?

17

The Hope of Grace

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- Even in the curses, we still see God's grace
 - Genesis 3:15 is what we call the *protoevangelium* or the first appearance of the Gospel
 - In our study on Creation, we saw that the death of Jesus was God's eternal plan, and we see that plan being revealed here
 - Even in the midst of their sin, God already was showing His mercy

18

The Nature of Fallen Man

- Whereas Adam was created in righteousness and was free, he is now a fallen creature
- Does he still bear the image of God?
 - He does, but the image has been corrupted
 - Notice the shift in Genesis 3:8-11
 - The man was not the way he was before
 - He does not even see the world in the same manner
- Man's nature was changed in the Fall from a holy creature to a defiled creature
- Let's look at what scripture says about the sinful nature of man

19

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Job 14:1–6 (ESV)

14 “*Man who is born of a woman
is few of days and full of trouble.*

*2 He comes out like a flower and withers;
he flees like a shadow and continues not.*

*3 And do you open your eyes on such a one
and bring me into judgment with you?*

*4 Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean?
There is not one.*

*5 Since his days are determined,
and the number of his months is with you,
and you have appointed his limits that he cannot pass,*

*6 look away from him and leave him alone,
that he may enjoy, like a hired hand, his day.*

”

20

Review

- The Holiness of God
- God created all things for His glory
- God is free to create however he pleases
- God is both sovereign and provident over Creation
- God created man in His image and man was free
- In his freedom, man chose to sin
- All of mankind has been corrupted
- We all die in Adam and are made sinful in Adam

21

The Nature of Fallen Man

- *Original Sin* - Adam's guilt and fallen nature are *imputed* to his offspring
- *Imputed* – to charge or attribute something to a person's account
- *Adam's Imputed Sin* – This does not mean that we are guilty of Adam's sin and that our eternal judgment is based on Adam's sin
 - It means that we are under the judgment and condemnation of Adam
 - Adam is the only one to whom God has said, "Do this and you will die"
 - Death is the consequence of sin, but it is the consequence of the man who sinned under the command of God
- *Adam's Imputed Nature* – Man is born into a natural state of sin against God
 - Can anyone choose to **not** disobey God?

22

The Nature of Fallen Man

- Read Romans 5:12-21

23

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1 Corinthians 15:20–22 (ESV)

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

”

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The Nature of Fallen Man

- A common statement made in objection to original sin is that it is not fair for man to be held to the sin of Adam when He did not commit the sin
- That's the entire point of the imputation of Christ's righteousness
- You did not do anything to earn it or gain it, yet it was given to you because of Christ's work
- Paul's entire argument for the imputation of righteousness is based on his argument for the imputation of Adam's sin

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The Nature of Fallen Man

- While we are sinful in Adam, how far has man fallen?
- To what degree has man become sinful?
- This is going to be the heart of the disagreements amongst Christians in Soteriology

26

“ Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin. Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.

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Baptist Faith and Message 2000, Chapter III.

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1925

1963

2000

Man was created by the special act of God, as recorded in Genesis. "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them" ([Gen. 1:27](#)). "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" ([Gen. 2:7](#)).

He was created in a state of holiness under the law of his Maker, but, through the temptation of Satan, he transgressed the command of God and fell from his original holiness and righteousness; whereby his posterity inherit a nature corrupt and in bondage to sin, are under condemnation, and as soon as they are capable of moral action, become actual transgressors.

[Gen. 1:27](#); [Gen. 2:7](#); [John 1:23](#); [Gen. 3:14-17](#); [Gen. 3:22-24](#); [Rom. 5:12,14,19, 21](#); [Rom. 7:22-25](#); [Rom. 11:18,22,32, 33](#); [Col. 1:21](#).

Note: Article III was titled "The Fall of Man" in the 1925 BF&M.

Man was created by the special act of God, in His own image, and is the crowning work of His creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race.

Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence; whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin, and as soon as they are capable of moral action become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore every man possesses dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.

[Gen. 1:26-30](#); [2:5,7,18-22](#); [3:9-6](#); [Psalms 1](#); [8:3-6](#); [32:1-5](#); [Isa. 6:5](#); [Jer. 17:5](#); [Matt. 16:26](#); [Acts 17:26-31](#); [Rom. 1:19-32](#); [3:10-18,23](#); [5:6,12,19](#); [6:6](#); [7:14-25](#); [8:14-18,29](#); [1 Cor. 1:21-31](#); [15:19,21-22](#); [Eph. 2:1-22](#); [Col. 1:21-22](#); [3:9-11](#).

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[Genesis 1:26-30](#); [2:5,7,18-22](#); [3:9-6](#); [Psalms 1](#); [8:3-6](#); [32:1-5](#); [Isa. 6:5](#); [Jeremiah 17:5](#); [Matthew 16:26](#); [Acts 17:26-31](#); [Romans 1:19-32](#); [3:10-18,23](#); [5:6,12,19](#); [6:6](#); [7:14-25](#); [8:14-18,29](#); [1 Corinthians 1:21-31](#); [15:19,21-22](#); [Ephesians 2:1-22](#); [Colossians 1:21-22](#); [3:9-11](#).

28

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III. Of the Fall of Man

We believe that man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil; and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse.

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New Hampshire Confession of 1833

29

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Chapter 6 – Of the Fall of Man, of Sin, and of the Punishment Thereof

P2. Our first parents, by this sin, fell from their original righteousness and communion with God, and we in them whereby death came upon all: all becoming dead in sin, and wholly defiled in all the faculties and parts of soul and body.

P3. They being the root, and by God's appointment, standing in the room and stead of all mankind, the guilt of the sin was imputed, and corrupted nature conveyed, to all their posterity descending from them by ordinary generation, being now conceived in sin, and by nature children of wrath, the servants of sin, the subjects of death, and all other miseries, spiritual, temporal, and eternal, unless the Lord Jesus set them free.

P4. From this original corruption, whereby we are utterly indisposed, disabled, and made opposite to all good, and wholly inclined to all evil, do proceed all actual transgressions.

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1689 Baptist Confession of Faith, Chapter 6

30

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Mankind didn't need a “fallen sin nature” to choose to sin. So too, fallen people don't need God to miraculously give them a new nature in order for them to respond positively to His own appeals to be reconcile through the gospel.

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31

The Nature of Fallen Man

- The question we are asking: Has man’s nature fundamentally changed?
 - Are we in the same state in which Adam was created?
 - Did his fall into sin do something to our nature?
- If man’s nature did not change in the Fall, then what happened in the Fall?
- Let’s now look at what scripture says about man’s sinful nature

32

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Genesis 4:6-7 (ESV)

6 The Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? 7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.”

”

33

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Genesis 6:5–6 (ESV)

5 The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. 6 And the LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart.

”

34

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Genesis 8:21 (ESV)

²¹ And when the LORD smelled the pleasing aroma, the LORD said in his heart, “I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the intention of man’s heart is evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike down every living creature as I have done.

”

35

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Psalm 51:1–6 (ESV)

¹ Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.

² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!

³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words
and blameless in your judgment.

⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.

⁶ Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,
and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

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36

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Jeremiah 17:9 (ESV)

*9 The heart is deceitful above all things,
and desperately sick;
who can understand it?*

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37

“

Matthew 7:11 (ESV)

*11 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children,
how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those
who ask him!*

”

38

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Matthew 15:18–20 (ESV)

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.”

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39

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John 3:18–21 (ESV)

18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. 19 And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. 20 For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. 21 But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

”

40

“ Romans 3:9–18 (ESV)

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.”

¹³ “Their throat is an open grave;

they use their tongues to deceive.”

“The venom of asps is under their lips.”

¹⁴ “Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness.”

¹⁵ “Their feet are swift to shed blood;

¹⁶ in their paths are ruin and misery,

¹⁷ and the way of peace they have not known.”

¹⁸ “There is no fear of God before their eyes.” ”

41

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Titus 1:15 (ESV)

¹⁵ To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled.

”

42

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Ephesians 2:1–3 (ESV)

2 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

”

43

The Nature of Fallen Man

- The constant teaching of scripture is that mankind is wicked to their very core, or *depraved*
- This does **not** mean that all men everywhere are as evil as they possibly can be
 - God restrains the sinfulness of mankind (Romans 1:18-31)
 - God sometimes looses this restraint in judgment
- It does mean that man is wholly sinful and wholly inclined to sin
- Man has no righteousness whatsoever apart from Christ
- Mankind is in slavery to sin

44

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John 8:31-38 (ESV)

31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” 33 They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free?’”

34 Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. 35 The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. 37 I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. 38 I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father.”

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John 8:39-47 (ESV)

39 They answered him, “Abraham is our father.” Jesus said to them, “If you were Abraham’s children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, 40 but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. 41 You are doing the works your father did.” They said to him, “We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God.” 42 Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. 43 Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. 44 You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. 45 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. 46 Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me?”

47 Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.”

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46

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Romans 6:6-7 (ESV)

6 We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. 7 For one who has died has been set free from sin.

”

47

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Romans 6:15-19 (ESV)

15 What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! 16 Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? 17 But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, 18 and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. 19 I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

”

48

The Slavery of Fallen Man

- Does man have *free will*?
- This has been a question that has caused many disagreements
- Some think that to say man has no free will is to say that man cannot make any decisions and is some sort of robotic person
- To say a person does not have free will is NOT to say that a person is unable by their own will to be righteous due to their sinful nature
 - Man sins of their own volition, and gladly at that
 - Can a man cease from sinning?
 - If he cannot, is his will truly free?
 - If man is unable to will themselves into a state of righteousness, is their will truly free?

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The Slavery of Fallen Man

- The focus of Christian debate is really around the idea of *inability*
- All orthodox Christians agree that man cannot be righteous on his own without the work of God
- Is man so sinfully depraved that they do not have the ability to respond to the free offer of grace by their own will?
- John 6
- 1 Corinthians 2

50

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<https://x.com/Soteriology101/status/1911868338445185182?s=20>

51

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Chapter 9 – Of Free Will

P1. God has endued the will of man with that natural liberty and power of acting upon choice, that it is neither forced, nor by any necessity of nature determined to do good or evil.

P2. Man, in his state of innocence, had freedom and power to will and to do that which was good and well-pleasing to God, but yet was unstable, so that he might fall from it.

P3. Man, by his fall into a state of sin, has wholly lost all ability of will to any spiritual good accompanying salvation; so as a natural man, being altogether averse from that good, and dead in sin, is not able by his own strength to convert himself, or to prepare himself thereunto.

P4. When God converts a sinner, and translates him into the state of grace, He frees him from his natural bondage under sin, and by His grace alone enables him freely to will and to do that which is spiritually good; yet so as that by reason of his remaining corruptions, he does not perfectly, nor only will, that which is good, but does also will that which is evil.

P5. This will of man is made perfectly and immutably free to good alone in the state of glory only.

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1689 Baptist London Confession

52

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John 1:12-13 (ESV)

12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

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53

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John 6:44 (ESV)

44 No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day.

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54

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John 6:60-65 (ESV)

60 When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?” 61 But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, “Do you take offense at this? 62 Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? 63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. 64 But there are some of you who do not believe.” (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) 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.”

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Romans 7:14-20 (ESV)

14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. 15 For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. 16 Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. 17 So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. 18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. 19 For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. 20 Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

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56

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Romans 8:5-8

5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. 6 For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 7 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.

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57

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1 Corinthians 2:14-16 (ESV)

14 The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. 15 The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. 16 “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

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58

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Jeremiah 13:23 (ESV)

*23 Can the Ethiopian change his skin
or the leopard his spots?
Then also you can do good
who are accustomed to do evil.*

”

59

How can we escape such a state?

- Only Christ can deliver us
- “If the son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

60

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Ezekiel 36:26-27 (ESV)

26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

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61

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Colossians 2:13 (ESV)

13 And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses,

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62

“

1 Peter 1:3 (ESV)

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

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