

## Man and Sin

Sin entered this world through the sin of Adam, the first man, and because he was our God designated representative all sinned.<sup>1</sup> Therefore, all men are sinners.<sup>2</sup> Man is born a sinner.<sup>3</sup> God tells us that man's wickedness is great, that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart are only continually evil.<sup>4</sup> No one is righteous, good, or understands.<sup>5</sup> God, since we are born sinners, reveals that:

1. Man **cannot** do good.<sup>6</sup>
2. Man **cannot** understand the things of God.<sup>7</sup>
3. Man **cannot** please God.<sup>8</sup>
4. Man **cannot** and does not desire to come to Christ.<sup>9</sup>
5. Man **cannot** change himself.<sup>10</sup>
6. Man **suppresses** the knowledge of God that is innate to all men.<sup>11</sup>

Man is totally **unable** to do anything good in his natural state. God tells us that men are **dead** in their sins and worthless.<sup>12</sup> God tells us that man's mind is blinded (he cannot understand), man's will is in bondage to sin,<sup>13</sup> and man's emotions are corrupted so that he does not desire or love God.

Man does not need to be reformed, but transformed! Man must become a new creation; he must be "born-again"; he must be "risen" from the dead and given new life.<sup>14</sup> Only God can "re-create"; "give birth to"; and raise the

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<sup>1</sup> Romans 5:12; Ecclesiastes 7:20; Romans 3:23; James 3:2; 1 John 1:8-10

<sup>2</sup> Isaiah 53:6; Romans 3:10-12, 23; Ecclesiastes 7:20

<sup>3</sup> Psalm 51:5; 58:3

<sup>4</sup> Genesis 6:5; 8:21; Jeremiah 17:9.

<sup>5</sup> Psalm 14; 53; Romans 3:10-18

<sup>6</sup> Romans 3:12; 8:7-8; Ecclesiastes 7:20; Isaiah 64:6; Ephesians 2:1-3; John 15:4-5

<sup>7</sup> Romans 3:11; 1 Corinthians 2:14; Psalm 14:2; 53:2, 4; Ephesians 4:18; John 3:3; 2 Corinthians 4:4

<sup>8</sup> Romans 8:7-8; Hebrews 11:6

<sup>9</sup> John 6:44, 65; Romans 3:11

<sup>10</sup> Jeremiah 13:23

<sup>11</sup> Romans 1:18

<sup>12</sup> Ephesians 2:1, 5; Romans 3:12; Colossians 2:13; John 6:63

<sup>13</sup> Romans 6:20; John 8:34-35; Ephesians 2:2-3; Titus 3:3

<sup>14</sup> 2 Corinthians 5:17; John 3:1-8; Ephesians 2:4-10

dead.<sup>15</sup> A man can be saved only by God for it is impossible for man to do anything to save himself.<sup>16</sup>

Through God's revelation of man's inability and sin we learn the absolute necessity of a Saviour and that Saviour is only the Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> John 1:12-13; 3:8; James 1:18; Ephesians 2:4-6, 10; 4:24; Galatians 6:15; Colossians 3:10

<sup>16</sup> Matthew 19:25-26; Luke 18:26-27; Hebrews 11:6

<sup>17</sup> Acts 4:12; John 3:36; 14:6; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 1 John 5:11-12; Rev. 20:15