

All Men Are Under Sin

Romans 3:9-20 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."

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

❖ Introduction

➤ Today we will continue last weeks sermon: All Men Are Under Sin

- If you remember last week...
- We started with one main proposition...
- And then we ended with Paul's conclusion... His finale...

➤ It is like a Sandwich...

- With a top and a bottom
- And a lot of the good stuff in between
- But... this sandwich doesn't taste so well...

➤ So We had:

- Proposition: All are under Sin...
- Proof: 6 O.T. texts
- Conclusion: Every Mouth Stopped

➤ The O.T. texts come from the Psalms and from Isaiah

➤ Unpleasant Sandwich

- I say this because... we have been dealing with the fallen nature of man since 1:18
- And Paul has gone to great lengths to make sure all who read... will see they are sinners
- And if sinners... in need of a Savior...

➤ Yet... the good is coming... the gospel is coming again...

- And we will touch on it today at the end...
- **Because we will follow the same format today...**
 - Man is under sin
 - We will look at the remainder of the 6 O.T. texts...
 - **Then** we will cap it off with Paul concluding with... "so that every mouth may be stopped"
 - **Finally** we will begin to look at how a sinner is not made right with God
 - ◆ And how a sinner is declared right with God

❖ Last Week... We began by looking at Paul's main proposition...

➤ The point He had been making since 1:18...

❖ 1) All Men are Under Sin...

- 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,

➤ Under Sin: Is a **condition** of man demonstrated by rebellion and a broken relation with God

- Notice... I said it is demonstrated by rebellion...
- Our state is demonstrated in rebellion

- It is a condition...
 - It is not sinning... it is... we are sinners...
- **Being under sin...** is being enslaved to sin...
 - All men are under the enslavement of sin....
 - Fix this firmly on your minds this morning...
 - All men have the condition of being Under Sin...
- **Sin is your master...**
 - **Under sin means that sin is your master...**
- **Being Under Sin has more to do with our nature:**
 - We are under the power and pollution of sin
 - **Why?**
 - Because we have been born this way...
 - And we all have chosen sin... it is our nature...
- **Here is some proof:**
 - Ephesians 5:8 for at one time you were darkness
 - Ephesians 2:3 and were by nature children of wrath
- ❖ **2) No One is Righteous**
 - *"None is righteous, no, not one;*
 - **Here is the standard for us:**
 - **Matthew 5:48** You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.
 - That is a problem isn't it?
 - That is the standard...
 - **Then... We discussed the example of Job...**
 - And this great man that even God commended...
 - He had to repent... because He was not righteous on his own either
- ❖ **3) No One Understands**
 - *¹¹ no one understands*
 - **Understands what? Understands God...**
 - No one understands who God is and what He expects, etc
 - **MacArthur's example...**
 - Men jumping...
 - These men are ready jump from Hawaii to California...
 - Now the problem is... they do not know which way to jump...
 - They lack this knowledge...
- ❖ **4) No One Seeks God**
 - *; no one seeks for God.*
 - **Seek is a very strong work...**
 - Seeking is not the same things as asking...
 - Asking is an almost passive thing...
 - **Seeking implies effort and energy and direction...**
- ❖ **Today... we continue Paul's proving of main point... that all men are under sin...**
 - **But do not be discouraged...** because there is light at the end of this tunnel...
 - It is not all bad news...
 - The worse the news now... the better the good news will be...
 - **If we can all take into our mind and heart the depth of our condition without God...**
 - Receiving Jesus would be a no brainer...
 - It blows my mind... it really does...
 - To present to people the truth that they are sinners and they will be condemned
 - ◆ By a Holy and Righteous God...

- ◆ To present that over and over...
- ◆ And the person say... yes... I think you are right... and I do know that I am a sinner
- ◆ But I am not going to give my life to God...
- **It is a simple choice... there is no other way for our sins to be removed...**
 - There is no other way to God...
 - There is no other way to know how glorious and beautiful God is...
 - Than to turn from sin and to God...
 - He will not disappoint you...
 - He is more beautiful and more desirable than all earthly treasures and pleasures...
- But.... I digress Let's continue at verse 12

❖ 5) All Men are on the Wrong Road

- *12 All have turned aside;*
- **Men are naturally going the wrong direction...**
 - This Word is used in a military context meaning the soldier is running the wrong way...
- **God did not make us this way... we turned aside on our own...**
 - *Ecclesiastes 7:29 See, this alone I found, that God made man upright, but they have sought out many schemes.*
- **Men are naturally rebellious against God... we run from Him**
 - Just as God says through Isaiah
 - *"All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way" (Isa. 53:6).*
- **Jesus said it clearly in the gospel of Matthew...**
 - *Matthew 7:13-14 "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.*
 - **Please see this clearly....** Jesus said there are two paths...
 - A wide and broad way that many follow to their own destruction...
 - And a small and narrow one that leads to life... and few find it...
 - **Please understand that Satan has deceived the hearts of man and told them...**
 - You are the author of your own destiny... choose your own path...
 - And maybe you think you are on the right path...
 - But that path to destruction is not marked properly...
 - There are no signs that say..."Hey... you are going the wrong way"
 - While you are on this road... all the Billboards keep saying... this is the way...
 - In the end... your destination will be the gates of hell
- **There is only one way to God... and that is through Jesus**
 - *"I am the way, and the truth, and the life" (John 14:6).*
 - Only Jesus can save...
 - So do not make the mistake of being on the wrong road...
- **God lamented through Jeremiah that His people had went the wrong way...**
 - They were seeking the wrong things...
 - *Jeremiah 2:13 for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.*
 - Do you see what He is saying...
 - **When people wanted a water supply they would make these water tanks...**
 - ◆ And I think back then they were made from clay...
 - ◆ And they would use these tanks to hold their water....
 - ◆ Well... God likened their rebellion to the seeking of water...
 - **He says they had forsaken the true fountain of living waters...**
 - ◆ So... they left a great tasting aquifer for a muddy puddle of water...

- And they made cisterns that were broken and could hold no water...
 - ◆ So they got a terrible water source... but they can not even keep their water...
- What a great way to describe our condition as we seek the pleasures of this world over the pleasures of God....
- **They have all turned aside....**
 - Not only had they turned aside... Paul argues through the O.T. scripture
 - All men are worthless...

❖ 6) All Men are Worthless

- *together they have become worthless*
- **Oy! That is not very nice....**
 - Looks like Paul needed to take a class in how to be a bit more tactful... more gracious...
 - Don't you know it isn't nice to call people worthless....
 - Yet... here Paul writes it...
 - Granted... He is quoting from the O.T. and Psalm 14...
- **Worthless: it means useless...**
 - To be characterized as having no beneficial use...
 - Hey... this is sad... this is very sad...
 - But... we must embrace the bad news so we can run to the good news...
- **Paul is making the point that no only are all men under sin...**
 - He goes further to describe it and says...
 - All men have become useless... worthless... having no value...
- **What exactly does He mean here?**
 - Because you may think....
 - Well... I look around and I do not see anyone that is completely useless
 - **Let's evaluate this for a moment...**
 - **When someone makes a tool... it is to be used for a certain purpose...**
 - We might can use the tool for other things...
 - But... if the tool is made for the purpose of hammering a nail...
 - Yet although it can do many other things... it can not hammer a nail...
 - ◆ It is useless in regards to its original purpose...
 - ◆ So... if a hammer won't hammer... it is useless to the carpenter trying to put in nails
- **Men Are Created in the image of God...**
 - **Genesis 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.**
 - With the purpose of bearing that image to the entire world...
 - Man is supposed to honor and glorify God with His life...
 - **Why... because that is what God... your maker has created for you to do...**
 - When we cease to honor and bring glory to God...
 - We have become useless...
 - We have become worthless...
 - **We are like:**
 - 10,000 spoons when all you need is a knife
- **I remember one time**
 - I locked my keys in my truck...
 - Well... those ten times...
 - **And I made this little thing to reach on and unlock my door....**
 - But you know what... it got all bent and messed up... and it became useless to me...
 - **I had this Ford truck with side vents as part of the window...**
 - And I finally turned these two pieces of metal wire into something I could use...

- And they would get a little out of shape sometimes...
- But I would rebend them and make them right...
- I kept them in my tool box for all the times I knew I would lock my keys in my truck

➤ **This goes against modern day preaching doesn't it...**

- This goes against modern day pop culture...
- To call people worthless...
- So let me be clear here today....
- **If you are living your life in rebellion against God...**
 - You have become worthless.... Useless...
 - You are the hammer that doesn't hammer...
- **You may think you are of great value....**
 - But unless your life is turned over to Jesus Christ you will remain useless...
 - Do not fight against this... do not be stubborn and prideful
 - And say... I will show God how useful I can be without Him...
- **It is impossible to be useful unless you are used for the purposes of God...**
 - Since... that is the intention of your creator...

➤ **What happens to all of the worthless tools?**

- They usually just get canned don't they? Thrown in the trash....
- Look at what the scriptures say about the worthless servant...
 - **Matthew 25:30 And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'**
 - ◆ There is a better way...

➤ **What do you do now?**

- **What if you are ready to admit you are worthless in your current condition...**
 - Well... the great news is that God can repurpose you....
 - He can bring you into His shop and fix you right up...
 - He can make you useful again...
 - Useful to His purposes...

➤ **If you notice the verse....**

- It never says you are useless or worthless...
- It says men have become worthless...
- **God can turn that around....**
 - By Faith in Jesus' death and resurrection and repentance of sins...
 - God gives you a new heart and puts His Spirit within you...
 - And you will be used for the purposes of God...
- **God can renew you... Say with David...**
 - **Psalm 51 ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

➤ Ok... so... Paul does not stop there... He has more...

❖ **7) No One Does Good**

- *no one does good, not even one."*

➤ **Ecclesiastes 7:20 Surely there is not a righteous man on earth who does good and never sins.**

➤ **What does God mean by good...**

- Well... Jesus teaches us this doesn't He?
- Rich young ruler.... Good teacher...
 - Why do you call me good... there is none good but God...

➤ **God is good... Jesus is God... He is good...**

- The standard is God's goodness...
- God is upright

➤ **Man vs Man...**

- When you look around you... you may consider yourself good...
- You may consider yourself to have done some good things...
- Because you compare yourself to others...
- **The comparison is to be man's good in relation to God's good**
 - And there is no comparison...
- **Has Man?**
 - Created a beautiful world?
 - Created food and drink for his people to delight in
 - Created a sun to be warmed by
 - Or the moon and stars for beautiful nights
 - Has man created animals and plants for the enjoyment of his subjects?
 - Has man provided for billions of people their daily bread
 - Has man been kind to those who hate Him
 - Has man been patient with those who harm him and others
 - Has man been kind to those who mock him
 - Has man been kind to those who ignore him....
 - Has man died for those who have hated him
 - Has man provided a way for eternal life to any who come in faith...
- **Men are arrogant...**
 - **Consider this.... Let's say... I give you \$100**
 - And I say... I want you to use this wisely... remember who it came from
 - And use it...
 - **So... you take \$99 and give it to the needy... and take \$1 and buy yourself half a coke...**
 - And you say... I have this money I would like to give to you...
 - ◆ It is my money... and I want to give it to you
 - **Who is good here?**
 - ◆ Many of you are thinking... well... I am... I gave it to the needy...
 - ◆ And you forget... it wasn't even your money to begin with...
 - **God provides billions of dollars to some people...**
 - And they give billions away... and we laud them as if they were so good...
 - But... do you not see that it is God who is Good
 - **How do we do good?**
 - With our time... our energy... our mouths... our hands... our talents... our money...
 - All of these come from God don't they...
 - Then, God is good to give them to us to do good things with
 - **Man can not do good unless they do good through God...**
 - Man can do good... But it must be in the name of the One True God
 - And they must honor Him with what He has given them
- **Man is not good... God is good...**
 - Man has gone astray and done every unimaginable thing...
 - When God created man... He gave us all we needed... He was good to us...
 - It was not long before man became bankrupt...
 - **Genesis 6:5 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.**
- **Where is the problem?**
 - Is it in the kindness of God?
 - Or is it in the rebellion of man?

❖ 8) Man's Mouth is Spiritually Dead

- m

➤ m

❖ **9) Man's Relation to Man is Ruined**

➤ m

➤ m

❖ **10) No Man Fears God**

➤ m

➤ m

❖ **11) God Intends to Stop Every Mouth**

➤ m

➤ m

❖ **12) No Man Will be Justified by Works**

➤ m

➤ m

❖ **Remember Paul's Conclusion**

➤ **Verse19**

▪ so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.

➤ **What do we have to say for ourselves?**

▪ Is there any defense we can make before God...

▪ **Job tried and failed...**

• God stopped Job's mouth... Job said... I will cover my mouth...

• I have nothing worth saying

❖ **What if this is You?**

➤ What if you are on the wrong path... the wrong way...

➤ What if you are worthless.... What if you are not good?

➤ Dwight Moody and the Prison

❖ **Remember the good news of the Gospel...**