

All Men Are Under Sin 3

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

❖ RECAP will be a little longer than usual today...

- Lets run through all the ways that God is making it clear to us...
 - That we will all be accountable to Him

❖ 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...**
- ❖ **5) All Men are on the Wrong Road**
 - *12 All have turned aside;*
 - **Men are naturally going the wrong direction...**
 - **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.
- ❖ **6) All Men are Worthless**
 - *together they have become worthless*
 - **Worthless: it means useless...**
 - To be characterized as having no beneficial use...
 - **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...
- ❖ **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

❖ **8) Man's Mouth is Spiritually Dead**

- *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."*

➤ **Here Paul is speaking about the deadness of what we say.**

- Notice the progression... notice the all encompassing nature of his argument
- He speaks of the throat
- He speaks of the tongue
- He speaks of the lips
- He speaks of the mouth
 - Do you see... how what is said... the thought comes up through the throat
 - The tongue adds substance to what is said
 - The lips add clarity to the voice
 - And the mouth projects it all.
- ◆ And it comes from deep within the person's character

➤ **Jesus wraps it up here...**

- **Matthew 15:18 "The things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart"**

➤ **It is not just what is being said that is the issue...**

- The point is that the mouth... the lips, the tongue the throat... are indicators
- Indicators of what is in the heart...

➤ **Man is under sin...**

- They are not righteous...
- They do not do good
- They are on the wrong path
- **Here:** It shows up in their speech...

➤ **This is from God's point of view...**

- Paul is quoting from the Psalms... And it is inspired text...
- And we are seeing how God views man's mouth...
- He views it as full of death...

➤ **Notice the descriptions used to bring this doctrine to life...**

- **The throat is an open grave...**
 - God looks at their throat as if He were looking at a rotting corpse...
 - That is what the throat of sinful man is like to God
 - It is a glimpse into the deadness of their heart
- **Their tongues deceive...**
 - They use their tongues to lie and twist the truth...
 - To turn people away from what is right
- **Their lips are venomous...**
 - They poison everyone within ear shot
 - They poison them with their deceit...
- **The mouth curses and is full of bitterness**
 - This is the culmination of how ruined their speech is...
 - Man under sin uses their mouth... their mouth that was created by God
 - ◆ To curse others... to curse God maybe
 - ◆ They use it to spout out bitterness...

➤ **No Surprise...**

- Spend some time just listening to people...

- When you listen to people...
 - Are you more likely to hear encouraging good things come from their mouth...
 - Or discouraging and bitter things...
- **We are instructed to use our mouths for building up...**
 - **Paul says in:**
 - Ephesians 4:29 Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.
 - Ephesians 5:4 Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.
 - **In speaking of the tongue James says:**
 - James 3:8-12 ⁸but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.
- **When Paul wanted to prove that man is under sin...**
 - He pointed toward their mouth...
 - And subsequently pointed at their hearts

❖ 9) Man's Relation to Man is Ruined

- *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."*
- **John MacArthur quotes the nineteenth-century Scottish evangelist Robert Haldane, in his commentary on Romans**
 - *"The most savage animals do not destroy so many of their own species to appease their hunger, as man destroys of his fellows', to satiate his ambition, his revenge, or his greed"*
- **Our Country's Violent Crime**
 - 229,000 people have been murdered since the year 2000
 - 21 million violent crimes have been committed
 - Over 18 million abortions have been performed
 - Over 1.4 million rapes have occurred...
 - Just in our country... not the rest of the World...
- **Do you see how God is true in making His point that All Men are Under Sin...?**
 - He says we are swift to shed blood
 - There is ruin and misery in our paths
 - The way of peace is not known
- **Do not count yourself as one who has risen above all of this...**
 - **In Matt 5 Jesus is talking about murder...**
 - And He says... that hatred and anger and ill words against someone is like murder
 - Jesus is concerned with the heart...
 - **Think back to the first person ever born....**
 - Cain the son of Adam and Eve...
 - They had another son named Abel...
 - **Cain kills his own brother... Right there in the beginning...**
 - We see the heart of man displayed in the jealousy and rage of Cain
- **Paul is saying... this is mankind void of God... void of His Word...**
 - This is the natural state of man...
 - We are murderous
 - John says:

- 1 John 3:15 Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer;

- **Mankind is like a large boat running down the river...**
 - Behind the boat it leaves a large wake...
 - Except in the case of man... there is Misery and Ruin in its path... there is no peace...
- **This all exemplified the heart of man...**
 - And Paul sums it up nicely with a summary of man...

❖ 10) No Man Fears God

- *18 "There is no fear of God before their eyes."*
- **Man is like the child playing with a wild animal...**
 - They have no idea they ought to fear for their life...
 - **Men walk around oblivious of their fate**
 - That they will one day stand before God
 - **Men are like the children who forget to do their chores and responsibilities**
 - because their father isn't home...
 - But when he gets home they will face the circumstances....
- **There is no fear of God before their eyes...**
 - The full quote is from:
 - Psalm 36: 1-2 Transgression speaks to the wicked deep in his heart; there is no fear of God before his eyes. ² For he flatters himself in his own eyes that his iniquity cannot be found out and hated.
 - This is the root of the problem for the man under sin...
- **Before His eyes...**
 - **The man under sin is blind to God's Nature**
 - He has forgotten the truth about God
 - He cannot see Him... He is not before the man's eyes...
 - **Remember our instructions from the Word**
 - Proverbs 4: 20-22 My son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. ²¹ Let them not escape from your sight; keep them within your heart. ²² For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh.
 - ◆ God's Word brings life... it is to be kept before the man who seeks God
 - ◆ God's Word brings fear...
 - ◆ The Psalms and proverbs teach us "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom"
 - **But... They also say...**
 - ◆ Psalm 53:1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God,"
 - And to add some context... this verse is also found in Psalm 14...
 - And Paul has been quoting from Psalm 53 and 14...
- **They have No fear of God...**
 - Means that men go through their life
 - **Without reverence to God...**
 - ◆ Paul is not just talking about being afraid of God...
 - ◆ People can be afraid of God and His power...
 - ◆ Yet never hold Him in high regard...
 - ◆ Never bow down in reverence to God...
- **Paul has written all of these things...**
 - To teach us that all men are under sin...
 - And... in case you want to poke out your chest and say... not me
 - I am not like this...
 - **You are like the Pharisee in Luke**

- Luke 18:10 “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 “The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. 12 ‘I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.’13 “But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, the sinner!’14 “I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

- **We are all prideful sinners outside of the grace and mercy of God almighty**

- Here me... I am certain that if God were to remove His common grace and special grace from any of us

- **We would fall into depths of sin we would never imagine...**

- ◆ I am not saying you would all be drug dealing pimps...

- But... you would fall deep into sin you could not control

- **In His Exposition of Romans:**

- Robert Haldane wrote,

- *It is astonishing that men, while they acknowledge that there is a God, should act without any fear of His displeasure. Yet this is their character. They fear a worm of the dust like themselves, but disregard the Most High. ... They are more afraid of man than of God-of his anger, his contempt, or ridicule. The fear of man prevents them from doing many things from which they are not restrained by the fear of God. ... They love not His character, not rendering to it that veneration which is due; they respect not His authority. Such is the state of human nature while the heart is unchanged.*

- **Praise God this morning if God has been gracious toward you**

- **Application: Put God before your eyes:**

- Deuteronomy 11:18 ¹⁸“You shall therefore lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.

- ❖ **Finally.... We come to the conclusion this morning...**

- Paul says... enough... I have said enough...

- You should be thoroughly convinced

- And if your not... you never will be...

- All men are under sin

- ❖ **11) The Whole World is Accountable to God**

- 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.

- **Every mouth may be stopped...**

- Remember the example of Job...

- Put his hand over his mouth...

- **We have nothing to say to God... nothing in defense**

- We stand guilty...

- **The whole world is accountable to God**

- This word accountable means:

- Answerable.... Or liable for judgment...

- Every person will give an account of their life to God...

- **The scriptures teach us this truth...**

- Life teaches us this...

- Our current society and family units teach us that we are accountable for our actions

- **Romans 14:12 So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.**

- **When we stand before God... what will we say?**
 - **Let's stop and contemplate this for a moment...**
 - This is not a gimmick to stir up some false emotional response from you today
 - **Stop and meditate because this is the truth... this is the end of days for all men**
 - **Consider yourself standing before the God who spoke all things into being**
 - Picture Jesus the Son standing there...
 - Remember all the times we heard of His torture and death
 - Remember His resurrection
 - Fix this firmly in your mind...
 - You stand remembering your lifetime of sin and forgetting God
 - ◆ You stand remembering how much you lived for yourself
 - ◆ You remember all the times God has been gracious to you
 - **What will you say for yourself...**
 - Will there be anything you can answer back to the Judge of All things?
- **You can stand under Grace...**
 - You can stand Pardoned by faith in Jesus Christ...
 - Although you come before God with all your guilt and accountability...
 - **You can make sure today that Jesus is your advocate...**
 - You can make sure that Jesus offering is applied to your account...
- Or you can stand by your own merit...
 - But... Paul answers this for you in the next verse...
 - No man will be justified by Works

❖ 12) No Man Will be Justified by Works

- **²⁰ For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.**
- **Notice that little phrase... "In his sight"**
 - Oh... the eyes of God run to and fro throughout the whole earth...
 - He sees even into the depth of our hearts...
- **First thing we must consider here: What does it mean to be justified?**
 - This is a very important concept... if we do not get it...
 - We do not understand what God has done for us
 - We do not understand our nature
 - We do not understand the nature of his grace
- **Being Justified must happen if one will enter the Rest of Heaven...**
 - Being justified does not mean that God makes you righteous...
 - Here the distinction here...
 - **Being Justified by God is a legal declaration by God...**
 - One in which He declares you righteous...
 - He declares you right with the judge...
 - **We stand condemned in our sin...**
 - When faith comes in... God accounts our faith as righteousness on our account...
 - Do not get confused and think...
 - Well... I have been justified... therefore... I should be righteous ...
 - ◆ Then you look at your life and see... I am not so righteous... I still sin...
 - **Being made righteous is another Work of God the Spirit...**
 - It is called Sanctification... a process of being made holy...
 - Being justified is being declared right by God...
- **So, Lets picture ourselves standing there again before God...**
 - You standing with your lifetime of sin...

- And wondering... what will happen to me...
 - Now... you should have an idea of what is coming... you should know what you believe
- **But... you are standing there...**
 - And you know you deserve a harsh sentence...
 - And the God of all creation declares you right in His sight...
 - ◆ And you are elated and filled with joy...
 - ◆ But... Why?... why are you declared right with God?
- **Because of Faith in the Work of Jesus in His death and resurrection...**
 - Now... notice this... there is a faith you have...
 - It has been given to you by God...
 - And the faith is in someone... it is in Jesus and what He has done...
 - It is the Work of Jesus that has made right standing with God possible...
- **God imputes the righteous nature of Jesus to your account...**
 - Impute means to attribute...
 - IN a round about way you could say... it has been given to you
 - Your account has now been accounted with the righteous nature of Jesus...
 - So... it is no longer your sinful life on the books...
 - It is His righteous nature...
- **Consider what the Bible says:**
 - 2 Cor 5:21 He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.
 - Romans 10:4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.
 - Romans 4:5 But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness,
 - Phillipians 3:9 and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith,
- **Finally...**
 - Remember what the verse says...
 - **Not by works of the law...**
 - Our legalism will not save us...
 - It can not...
 - The reason is simple... We are too weak...
 - We can not keep God's commands enough... our flesh is weak...
 - **The law has displayed our sin... the law has shown us our weakness...**
- **Admit your weakness today...**

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