



Teaching Notes

Biblical Worldview

Week 5 – Man: Good or Evil?

Just as the dead can't raise themselves, there is nothing fallen man can do to save himself. He is absolutely helpless. He bears the stain of sin in every part of his being. That condition is known as the doctrine of total depravity. The doctrine of total depravity is an acknowledgement that the Bible teaches that as a result of the fall of man (Genesis 3:6) every part of man—his mind, will, emotions and flesh—have been corrupted by sin. In other words, sin affects all areas of our being including who we are and what we do. Ultimately, our only hope is in the redeeming grace of God. Properly understood, the doctrine of total depravity will destroy the hopes of those who place their faith in any type of works-based system of salvation and will recognize that God's sovereign grace is man's only hope.

KEY SCRIPTURE:

Genesis 8:2

Romans 3:10-12

Psalms 51:5

Romans 3:23

Jeremiah 17:9

James 2:10

Ephesians 2:1-6

Psalms 32:5

NOTES:

- Key question: Is man basically good or basically evil?
- *Depravity* means “wicked or morally corrupt.”
- Total Depravity means that every part of man—his mind, will, emotions and flesh—have been corrupted as a result of original sin.
- We were born into iniquity. The word, *iniquity*, means “guilt worth punishment.”
- We were guilty in sin.
- *Righteousness* means “absolute moral perfection.”
- We were dead in our transgressions
- If we don't fully understand the doctrine of depravity, then we can't fully understand the doctrine of redemption