

TOTAL DEPRAVITY "GRACE NEEDED"

TEXT: Isaiah 64:6-7

INTRO:

A. Total Depravity means "thoroughly crooked".

B. The doctrine of total depravity rightly divided falls in to two categories :

1. **Man's moral state** - His depraved nature and the nature of his depravity.
2. **Man's moral inability** - The Results of his depraved state.
3. There is a great importance of clear thinking and "biblical" reasoning in rightly dividing this doctrine.

C. Man is in a moral state of "total depravity".

1. The total corruption of the human nature (v.6; Isa.1:5-; Rom.8:7-8).
 - a. The whole of man is "enmity"; there is no soundness in him.
2. The total corruption of every human action (v.6).
 - a. Not that man does all the evil that he can, but all that he does is evil.
 - b. Every thing a man does outside of faith in Christ is sinful (Pro. 21:4; Jn.15:5; Rom.14:23).

D. Man's moral state has left him helpless - INABILITY

1. Man is unable to save him self (v.7; Jn.5:40; 6:44; Rom.3:10-12).
2. Man is not helpless because of the loss of any faculty but because of his sinful unwillingness to use the faculties that he has.
3. Man cannot come because he WILL NOT come.

E. Now a more in-depth look at the TOTAL DEPRAVITY OF MAN.

I. THE ORIGIN OF MAN'S TOTAL DEPRAVITY.

A. The origin is not found in God (Ecc.7:29).

1. God made "man" in positive holiness (Gen.1:26-27; Psa.25:8).
2. Only a sinful, fallen man blames God for his sin (Gen.3:12).

B. The origin of man's depravity is deeply rooted in the fall.

1. When Adam willingly sinned and we sinned in him (I Cor.15:22; Rom.5:12).
 - a. He was our covenant head -IN ADAM "
 - b. His sin was accounted to us (v.18-19).

C. We by nature continue where we were found - "in Adam" (Ecc. 7:29).

1. "They" - "you" keep on sinning - The continuation in sin is very much yours.
2. "I would not have sinned in the garden" - Why don't you quit sinning now?
 - a. Because, Just like Adam, you love your self, more that you love God.

II. THE EXTENT OF MAN'S TOTAL DEPRAVITY.

A. The grave importance of clear biblical thinking hear.

1. The Hyper-Calvinist and their abuse of the term "dead" - "Don't preach to the dead."
 - a. We are to preach to the dead (Jn 5:25-24; Rom. 1:16; I Cor. 1:18, 21; 2:5-7; 4:15; Jms.1:18).
 - b. If they are not dead then they are alive, and if they are alive they are saved!
2. The Arminian and their misuse of the term "depravity".
 - a. They say they believe in "depravity" but they do not, because they do not believe in inability.
 - b. Depravity necessitates inability (Jer. 13:23; Rom. 8:7-8; I Cor. 2:14)!

B. Total depravity means man has lost his God-likeness.

1. Man was created holy (righteous) but now he is void of righteousness (text; Eph.5:8).

- a. Man is now in a state of "positive" unrighteousness (Job 14:4; Psa. 58:3; Isa. 1:5; Jer. 17:9; John 3:6; Eph. 2:3).
- b. Man needs to be recreated in holiness (Eph.4:24; Col.3:10; Heb.12:10).

C. Total depravity means man is void of Love for God.

1. Every man is born a God hater (Rom. 8:7-8; Col. 1:21).
2. Every man is born a hater of the Law of God.
3. Man's love for himself is the highest form of idolatry.

D. Total depravity means man is separated from the life of God.

1. The life of God being the eternal life with himself (Eph. 2:1; 4:18).
2. The eternal fellowship with God (Jn.17:3, 5, & 11).

E. Total depravity DOES NOT mean that man does not have a spirit.

1. Fallen man has a spirit (Ecc. 12:7; I Cor.2:11; I Thess 5:23).
2. It was not something "IN" Adam that died, it was "Adam" who died.
 - a. Adam "died" in his relation to God (Gen. 2:17).
3. All the sons of Adam are dead "in" trespasses and sins toward God (Eph.2:1)
 - a. Spiritual death is not a dead spirit!
 - b. This "death" is never annihilation, but separation (Eph.4:18; Lk.15:24).
 - c. This death continues in hell (Rev.20:14).

F. Total depravity DOES NOT mean that man has lost his faculties.

1. The soul of man is in substance the same as it was before the fall.
 - a. Man still has an intellect, conscience, and will.
2. Fallen man, who is dead in sin, still has a conscience (Jn.8:9; 2:13-15)
 - a. The case of Adam and Agrippa.
3. Fallen man, who is dead in sin, still has a Will (desire of heart or mind)(Eph.2:1-3).

G. Total depravity means the complete crookedness of the faculties.

1. The complete crookedness their thoughts (Gen. 6:5; Rom.1:28; Tit.1:15).
2. The complete crookedness their conscience(Tit. 1:15; Heb.10:22)
3. The complete crookedness their will (Rom.3:11; John 5:40).

H. Total depravity means moral inability.

1. Man's inability is moral rather than physical.
2. Man's inability lays in a lack of desire not a lack of capacity.
 - a. Capacity is bound-up in the faculty.
 - b. SIN! Keeps men from seeing God, hearing God, following God, walking with God.
3. Man is helpless in his sin without God (Isa.64:7; Jn.6:44).
 - a. Man cannot come to God because his sinful nature will not let him.
4. God does not keep people from coming to him.
 - a. Election, predestination, particular redemption and other precious doctrines like these do not keep men from coming to Christ.
 - b. Man's OWN sin keeps men from Christ.
5. You have no excuse for not coming to Christ!

CON: THE REMEDY FOR MAN'S TOTAL DEPRAVITY.

A. It can not be found in man - He is without strength (Isa.64:7; Rom.5:6).

B. The remedy is wholly of God (Jonah 2:9; Eph.1:19).

1. It begins in election and ends in glorification (Rom.8:29-31).
 - a. The fall has left us dead in sin - only God can bring us back.
2. You will never stop sinning - because you will never stop being a SINNER!

C. The only hope any man has is in the mercy of God.

1. God's remedy for unrighteousness is to be found in the righteousness of Jesus Christ alone (Rom.1:16-17).