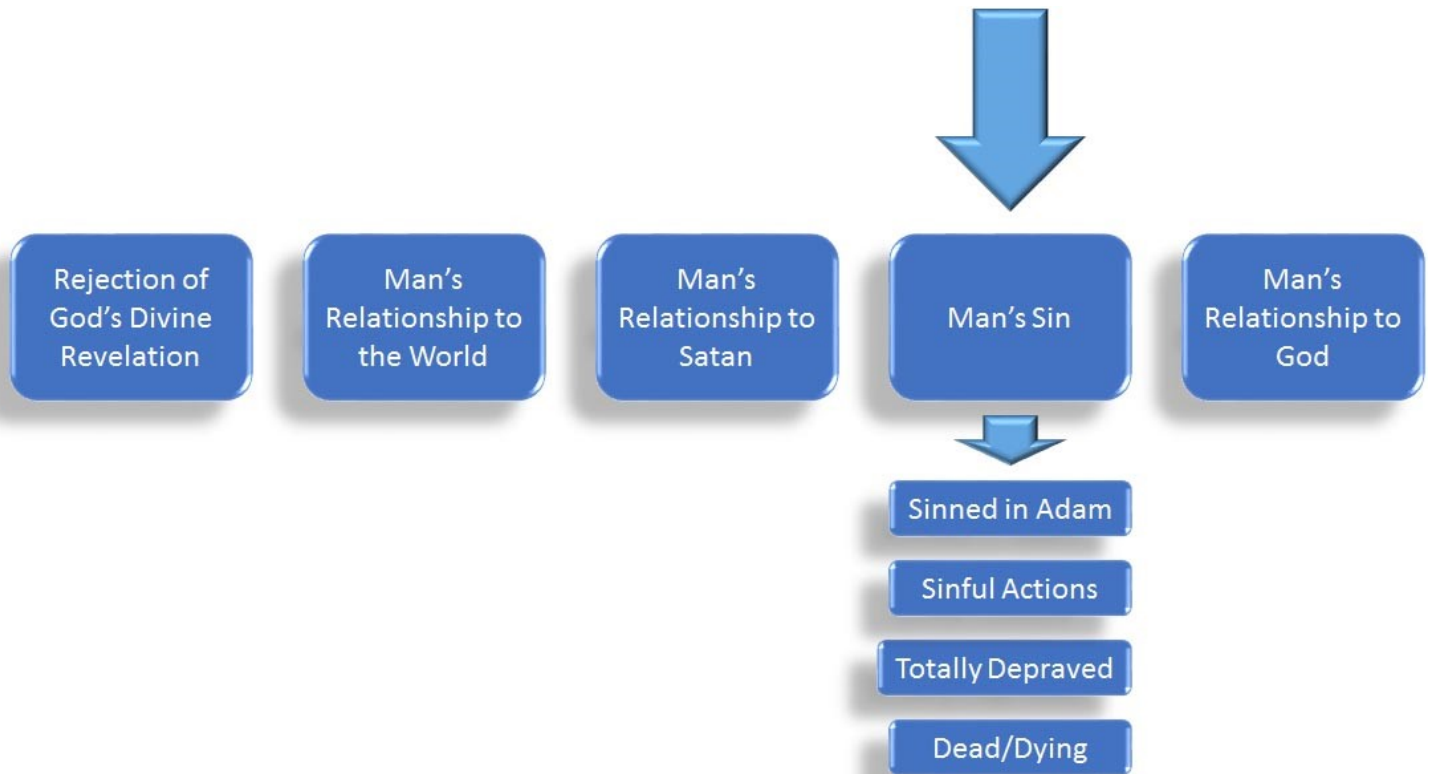


**Spiritually Dead
Physically Dying
Part 5**

By Darrell Crow

Study Guides For Discipleship

FOURTH COUNT OF LOST: Man's Own Sins Condemns Him.



Man is condemned because of his relationship to sin. Sin is any lack of conformity to the character and will of God. In so many different ways, man has fallen short of God's holy standard and the law which He proclaimed in the first five books in the Old Testament.

Sin condemns man in four ways:

- Original Sin: Man sinned in Adam; inherited a sin nature
- Man's own sinful actions and attitudes
- Man is totally depraved, both morally and spiritually.
- Man is spiritually dead and physically dying.

Original Sin

Original sin does not refer to the first sin but to the consequences of that first sin.

Original sin describes our fallen, sinful condition, out of which actual sins occur. Scripture does not tell us that we are sinners because we sin; rather, it affirms that we sin because we are sinners. We have a fallen, corrupt nature, out of which flows the actual sins we commit. Original sin, then, describes the condition of the human race.

Scripture teaches us that original sin is itself a judgment of a righteous God upon creatures that He created to be good. As a penalty upon Adam and Eve for their sin, God gave them over, along with all their progeny, to their wicked inclinations.

Augustine when analyzing the sinfulness of human beings commented that God made Adam and Eve both 'pose peccare' and 'posse non peccare'. This means they had the ability to sin and the ability not to sin.

Augustine went on to state that Adam and Eve were not created as sinners, but they had the power to sin. God commanded them not to eat the fruit from the forbidden tree, and they had the moral ability to obey God. So they had both the ability-to-sin and the ability-not-to-sin.

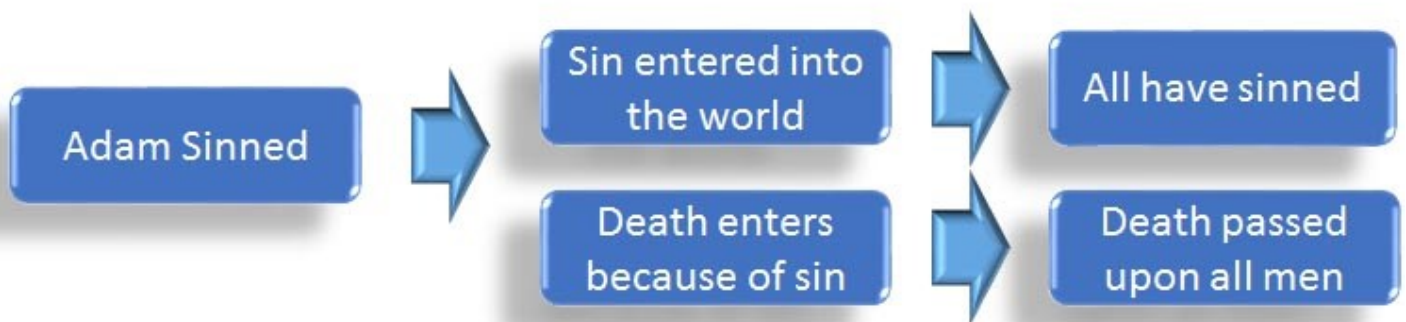
At the fall, according to Augustine, the human race lost posse non peccare, and in our current position we no longer have the ability not to sin. Dr. RC Sproul states *"the power of sin is so deeply rooted to the hearts and souls of mortal people that is impossible for us not to sin. We are so sinful by nature that we will never encounter someone who does not sin. The only person who ever accomplished a sinless life was Jesus Christ. Our inability not-to-sin is called the 'moral inability of human beings.'"*

This also impacted man's image of God in the narrow sense that which was instilled in man at creation. We lost the ability to be perfectly righteous. Yet we are still in the image of God in the wider sense. In other words, we're still human. As corrupt as we may be, our humanity has not been erased by the fall.

The Bible declares that all of mankind sinned in Adam. This is through inheritance.

¹² Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned— Romans 5:12

By Adam All Have Sinned



We know that all men die physically, but when did all men sin? When did the infant who died sin? When Adam and Eve sinned.

When Adam sinned, every descendant (potentially present in the genetic makeup of Adam) sinned. When Adam sinned, you sinned in him. When Adam sinned, I sinned in him. God reckons Adam's sin to be yours and my sin. Remember that original sin is a standing before God.

We participated personally, yet unconsciously, in Adam's sin. If we had been in that garden instead of Adam, we would have done the very same thing that Adam and Eve did. As descendants, we are just like Adam, bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh.



The book of Hebrews argues that the priesthood of Melchizedek is greater than that of Levi.

7:1 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham as he was returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,² to whom also Abraham apportioned a tenth part of all the spoils, was first of all, by the translation of his name, king of righteousness, and then also king of Salem, which is king of peace.³ Without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, he remains a priest perpetually. Hebrews 7:1-3



Abraham, the great-grandfather of Levi, paid tithes to Melchizedek., Therefore

⁹And, so to speak, through Abraham even Levi, who received tithes, paid tithes, ¹⁰for he was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him. Hebrews 7:9-10

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Levi paid tithes through Abraham. Even though Levi was not even born.

So we, yet unborn, sinned in Adam.

God declared the penalty of sin even before Adam disobeyed the divine will of God (Preceptive).

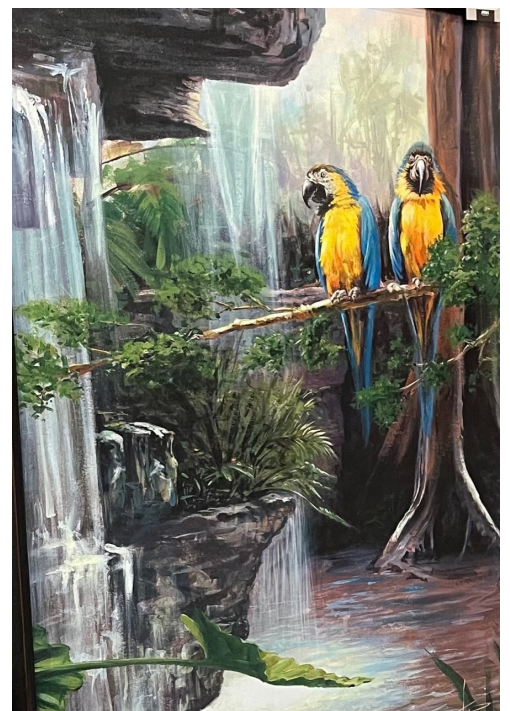
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7 but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.” Genesis 2:17

When Adam sinned, he died spiritually and he began to die physically. The processes of corruption and mortality set into his body. His state of spiritual death became immediately evident by his shame for his nakedness, by his hiding from God, and by his excusing of his sin.

7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings. 8 They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. 9 Then the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” 10 He said, “I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself.” 11 And He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” 12 The man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate.” 13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” And the woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” Genesis 3:7-13

Every man born into the world not only participates in Adam’s sin, but also in his punishment.



When Adam sinned, we all sinned, we all received the same punishment. He died spiritually immediately and he began to die physically. We all are born spiritually dead and we spend our lifetime dying physically.

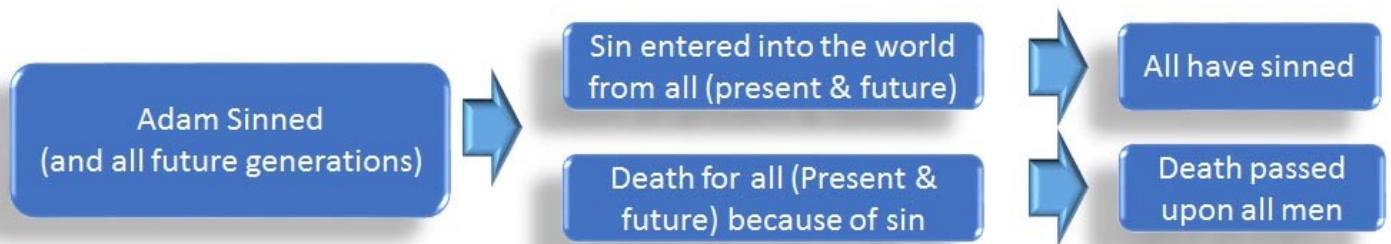
Our position before God at birth is this. Adam became guilty before God because of his sin of rebellion. We are guilty before God because we were in Adam.

Whereas sin entered by one man, God has provided the gift of salvation to those who would accept through His one Son, Jesus Christ.

¹⁵ But ^[a]the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many. ¹⁶ The gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment arose from one transgression ^[b]resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift arose from many

⁷ but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die." Genesis 2:17

By Adam All Have Sinned



Truax Traer Coal Company - Burning Star Mine No. 1 - Elkhville, Illinois - August 27, 1942

Row One (Bottom) L-R: Noah McClelland, Hank Rash, Frank Pennick, Clifford Batteau, John Robinson, Charles Beasley, Jack Singhurst, Ray Plummer, Andy Harper, Howard Piper, Herman Mueller, John Hottes, Orval Fred, Truman Carnuthers, and Lindel Eady. **Row Two** L-R: Glen Crawshaw, Charlie Fockel, Dallas "Pop" Gilmore, James Bayles, Bernard Lybarger, Albert Walker, George Wisely, Bill Lowe Sr., (Top Boss), Fred Huff (Superintendent), C.D. "Kelly" Heatherly (Pit Boss), Harvey Wisely, Reba Morgan, Vernon "Whitey" Beggs, Robert Carrothers, Raymond Mueller, Horace Shupe and Ben South. **Row Three** L-R: Noah Charles Reiman, Frank Crews, Clifton Maple, Henry Cochran, Herb Doerr, Joe Ragsdale, Stanley Bosko, Gerald Lybarger, Ardel Tripp, James Brown, Ben Reese, Herman Setmeyer, Delbert Williams, Arthur Martie, James Gilmore, Bill Bullar, Charles Endsley, and Walter Heaps. **Row Four (Top)** L-R: Emmet Crawshaw, H.O. Eaton, Robert (Bob) Crews, Harry Bailey, Ed (Dobbins) Martie, Tom Crews, Millard Crow, Bill Hannah, Roy (Egbo) Lingle, Gene Vincent, James Adams, Jim Stevens, A. Norman Sanders, Earl, Wisely, Henry Crews, and Sollie Morgan.

transgressions [\[4\]](#)resulting in justification. ¹⁷ For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ So then as through one transgression [\[4\]](#)there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness [\[4\]](#)there resulted justification of life to all men. ¹⁹ For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous. Romans 5:15-19

Part of man's position before God is that we are 'lost' because we have sinned in Adam.

Man's Sinful Nature & Sinful Actions

Not only is man guilty by virtue of having sinned through Adam, but man has inherited a sin nature from Adam. Man also stands guilty and 'Lost' before God Almighty because of his own sinful acts and attitudes.

Man's sins and attitudes are the natural expression or fruit of the sin nature.

Let's look at an apple tree. An apple tree is an apple tree from the time its seed is planted. It is an apple tree while it grows up and long before it produces apples. It is the same with man.



He is a sinner in nature long before he puts forth the blooms of his sinful attitudes and the fruit of his sinful deeds. But just as the apple tree manifests its nature, so the sinner will manifest his. He does this in two ways: by his thoughts and emotions, and by his willful decisions.

Adam and Eve had no children prior to their fall from grace. Their first two children were Cain and Abel. They were born with a sin nature, or if you will, a propensity to sin and rebel against God. Cain was jealous and angry at Abel and eventually killed him.

Adam's sons were begotten in his likeness and image

- *Now the man had relations with his wife Eve, and she conceived and gave birth to Cain, and she said, "I have gotten a manchild with the help of the LORD." ² Again, she gave birth to his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of flocks, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. Gen 4:1-2*
- *³ When Adam had lived one hundred and thirty years, he became the father of a son in his own likeness, according to his image, and named him Seth. Genesis 5:3*

Adam's sons were no different in their position before God. Adam sinned; so they sinned. Adam died, so they died.

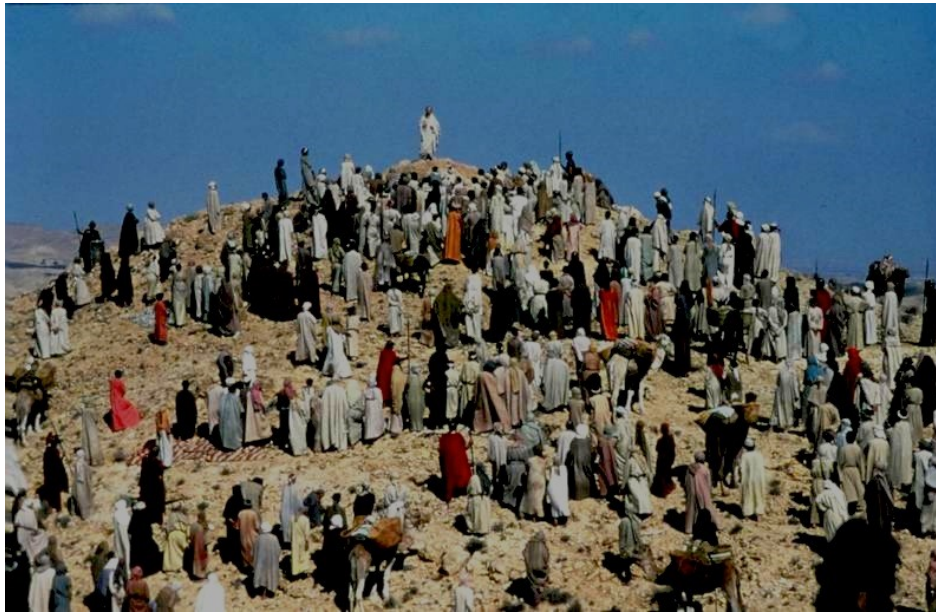
The presence of the sin nature has completely corrupted man's total being. His ...

- Personality
- Intellect
- Emotions
- Will
- Understanding
- *¹⁸ being darkened in their understanding, ¹⁶excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; Ephesians 4:18*
- *As Jeremiah 17:9 says, ⁹ "The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can understand it?"*
- *And in Romans 6:17-19 we read ⁷ But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, ¹⁸ and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness, resulting in further lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, resulting in sanctification.*
- *⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. Palm 51:5*

- King David was aware of man's inherited sinfulness when he wrote the above. David traced his problem to his fetal state. He was born in sin. God gave this same evaluation of man after the flood as noted below.
- *²¹ The LORD smelled the soothing aroma; and the LORD said to Himself, "I will never again curse the ground on account of man, for the intent of man's heart is evil from his youth; and I will never again destroy every living thing, as I have done. Genesis 8:21*

All men have broken the moral law of God. The sinful act is the manifestation of the sinful attitude. God holds man responsible for his thoughts and his actions.

- *²⁰ And He was saying, "That which proceeds out of the man, that is what defiles the man. ²¹ For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, ²² deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness. ²³ All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man." Mark 7:20-23*
- *³⁴ You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart. Matthew 12:34*



The scribes and Pharisees refused to recognize these concepts. To them the sin was in the act, but not in the thought. Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) corrects this thinking, but they wouldn't accept Jesus' teachings.

According to Jesus, sin went beyond the act to the attitude. Adultery could be committed in the mind as well as on the bed. Anger with malice broke the sixth commandment as much as plunging a knife into the heart of an enemy.

One sin involves the mind; the other sin involves both the mind and the body. But both acts are sin. The aftereffects of the action may be greater than those of the intent, but they are both still sin.

Man is a sinner, both in his soul and in his body, and God holds him responsible for this.

According to Paul, all unsaved men are under sin.

- ⁹ *What then? [a]Are we better than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin; Romans 3:9*
- ¹⁴ *For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am of flesh, sold [a]into bondage to sin. Romans 7:14*
- ²² *But the Scripture has shut up [a]everyone under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe Galatians 3:22*

All men before God and before men do have equality....

- They are equally under the penalty of sin
- They are equally under the power of sin
- They are equally under the presence of sin
- Sin dominates them completely, their past, present and future.
- They are equally lost

Unfortunately, man does not see himself in this desperate predicament. He believes that he can control the problems, the weaknesses, and the sins of himself and of society. He does not know that he is actually under the iron-fist rule of sin.

When man does see himself as being under sin, he is then a candidate for salvation.

This is a critical concept for those who witness (which should be all Christians). We must plow the field that our candidates see themselves as being under sin. Only then can the seed of the Gospel be planted.

Totally Depraved



Scripture depicts man as being morally and spiritually depraved.

The sense of depravity is hard to communicate. Whenever men hear the word depraved, they immediately think of a corrupt pervert or a sin-cursed soul.

However, depravity refers to man's position before God, not his practices.

Let's restate this. Totally depraved means one's position is as bad off as it can ever be before God. It does not mean that man is as bad as he could be. Depravity does not mean that a man does not have any knowledge of God. It does not mean that man does not appreciate the quality of goodness or that he does not do good. Depravity means that

- there is nothing in man that will merit God's approval.
- There is nothing that man can do to gain acceptance before God
- There is a total absence of holiness
- This is God's estimation of man, it is not man's evaluation of himself.
- It does not mean that man has achieved the highest intensity of sin in his personal experience.

There are sinners who have sinned more and others who have sinned less. There are moral sinners and there are immoral sinners, but they are both equal sinners before God. No man has ever put into practice the full potential of his sin nature, although we may seem to think a few have ardently tried.

The restraint of the Holy Spirit, the influence of Christians in the world as salt and light and the purposes of God have prevented man from doing so.

In summary,

- Depravity refers to man's position before God, not his practice.
- Man is as bad off as he can be, but he is not necessarily as bad as he can be
- Depravity is true of man's total being, his intellect, his emotion, and his will
- There is nothing that man can think, feel, or do, that will produce God's type of righteousness within his life.
- This is true of every man who has ever lived.



Man is Spiritually Dead & Physically Dying

Man is on death row.

We are waiting for our execution to the wrath of God. ³⁶*He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.” John 3:36*

That’s really how bad our position is before God Almighty.

At birth, each of us is placed on death row and we are hopeless in that there is nothing we can do, plead, persuade, buy, bribe or earn that will get us off of death row. Each person on death row is a condemned man and there’s nothing we can do to escape the coming wrath of God.

The best thing you can do is visualize the electric chair waiting for you just one hundred steps from your front door.

We are spiritually dead, our future in hell awaits us, the only thing remaining is for our puny bodies to die.

To reverse the sentence upon us there are two remedies we need.

1. Deliverance from the guilt of sin
2. Deliverance from the corruption of sin’s effects upon the body.

This can only happen by the grace of God. ⁸*But what does it say? “THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART”—that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, ⁹that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; ¹⁰for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. Romans 10:8-10*

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; Ephesians 2:8

Man cannot do anything to remedy his situation. Only God can provide the type of redemption that man needs.

To summarize ... man stands ‘lost’ before God Almighty because ...

- Man originally sinned in Adam (We would have done the same thing were we in his place.)
- Man has a sinful nature that is an enemy to God.

- Man commits sinful actions, sinful thoughts and carries a sinful attitude from a sin-infested heart.
- Man is Totally Depraved
- Man is on death row, spiritually dead and awaiting final physical death

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