SIN AND GLORY:
WHAT NO THEOLOGIAN HAS LEARNED TOTAL DEPRAVITY DEBUNKED
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Romans 1:15-16 (KJV)

15 So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also.

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Romans Overview

1. Purpose for writing – proclaim the gospel to those in Rome
2. Problem of Sin
   a. Reprobate mind – 1:18-32
   b. Tentative Remedy – 2
   c. Futile and utter saturation – 3
   d. Lack of Glory – 3:23
3. Remedy for Sin
   a. Justification & imputed Righteousness - 4
   b. Christ’s death and life as free gift to justification unto life – 5
4. Managing Sin in Believer’s life 6-8:14
5. Guaranteed Future and Glorification of the believer 8:15-39
7. Practical Christian living 12-16
Examples of people eating something that permanently and catastrophically changes them:
- Snow White
- Willy Wonka – Violet Beauregarde
- Alice in Wonderland (cake small, potion big)
- Matrix – red pill
- Hermoni drinks something and turns into a cat
- Minions drink purple juice
- Queen Mother from Brave
- Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
- Jumanji – Kevin Hart eating cake

Information restructures you

Restoration
- Snickers change from monster back to a person
Sin has two aspects: transgression and consequence. Both of these have to be addressed.
- Transgression is addressed by Christ on the cross, and validated by the resurrection.
- Consequence of sin (fallen image of God) is remedied by glorification.

**Transgression** – a person can stop drinking, stop doing meth, stop the bleeding, stop sleeping around, stop fighting, but that doesn’t get the person’s job back, fix their teeth, heal the wound, expunge the venereal disease, or fix the damage.
- Remedy – Christ’s death

**Consequence** – the ultimate remedy to the consequences of sin is restoration to the undiminished image of God. Glorification is the only means of achieving this. Successfully stopping the cause of the problem, the transgression, does not remedy the consequences. The law of sowing and reaping is still in place. David is forgiven, but his family is still in shambles. He still reaps what he sowed.
- Remedy – Christ’s life; glorification
Genesis 2:7 (KJV)
7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Genesis 2:11-12 (KJV)
11 The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold;
12 And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone.

Job 23:10 (KJV)
10 But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.

1 Corinthians 3:12-15 (KJV)
12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;
13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.
14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.
15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.
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“SIN NATURE” is bad terminology for two reasons:

1. That’s not how scripture uses the word “nature”
2. People who use the phrase “sin nature” have very different ideas associated with that terminology

Any language not found in scripture should be thoroughly investigated and revalidated on a constant basis.

“Sin Condition” or something similar might buy some time of less confusion for a time.
“Sin Nature” is a very low resolution concept which must be exchanged for something more precise for those who desire to increase understanding. This is a term and a concept that holds back peoples’ growth in understanding, and we unwittingly adopt this kind of language all the time.

We are not born with Adam’s sin. We are born with the consequences of Adam and Eve’s sin. We are not born with their guilt. We are born into their same perilous situation. That perilous situation is the condemnation passed down from Adam. If Adam and Eve are on a small island surrounded by lava, then all their children will be born into that same situation.

Adam and Eve entered a prison that has no exit (except one), and they had children in that prison. Those children did not commit the crime, but they are still in that prison, and there is still only one way out.

Humans trend toward transgression of the law at a rate that is 100%, and those transgression are what carry any guilt, not the inherited nature. So instead of “sin nature,” we need to start specifying the difference between the condemning consequences of Adam’s sin, and the 100% trend to transgress. This 100% trend to transgress is not to say that all human behavior is 100% transgression, but that 100% of humans will at some point commit a transgression. Humans do lots of things that are NOT sin all the time. According to Romans 2:14, our “nature” is to do the things contained in the law, but trend analysis reveals that no one can do this completely or all the time. We need more precise language.

Romans 2:14 (KJV)
14 For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:

Galatians 2:15 (KJV)
15 We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles,
Genesis 6:5 (KJV)
5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Romans 2:14 (KJV)
14 For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:

Acts 10:2 (KJV)
2 A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway.

The Calvinist conception of man in “total depravity” is that:
- “nobody can do ANYTHING right.”

The Biblical conception of man’s sinful condition is that:
- “nobody can do EVERYTHING right.”

James 2:10 (KJV)
10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.
Romans 1:18-32 (KJV)

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;
19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:
21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.
22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,
23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.
24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:
25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.
26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:
27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.
28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge,
29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,
30 Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,
31 Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:
32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.
You have to know how evil you are capable of being.
You have to know what you are capable of.

“I would never ______,” is the statement of someone who does not know their true self, and the sinner that it is.

The individual must come to respect the formidable part of their own nature the same way they would respect another person who might do them harm if crossed.

Moral Evil – willful infliction of unnecessary suffering and/or death
Resentment, uncleanness, lusts, perversion of truth, unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, Covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful, pleasure in those that do them.

Romans 2:6-11 (KJV)
6 Who will render to every man according to his deeds:
7 To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:
8 But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,
9 Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;
10 But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:
11 For there is no respect of persons with God.

Romans 3
There is none righteous. All have missed the mark and have fallen short of the glory.

Everyone is essentially the reprobate of Romans 1 just waiting to happen.

Sin:
- 100% trend to transgress at some point (transmits guilt)
- innate potential for limitless evil (does not transmit guilt, but still requires a cure)
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Sin:

- 100% trend to transgress at some point (transmits guilt)
- innate potential for limitless evil (does not transmit guilt, but still requires a cure)
This is the correct version of “know thyself.” The Christian and Biblical version. If you truly know yourself, you know that you’re not going to find God inside you, but you’re going to find an evil creature who is hopeless without God.

It took the philosophers nearly two millennia to develop psychology and start approaching this idea that Paul laid out at the very beginning of his soteriological thesis, and it’s the first of his doctrinal writings that appears in scripture.
**Sin:**
- Nobody can do EVERYTHING right
- 100% trend to transgress at some point (transmits guilt)
- Innate potential for limitless evil (does not transmit guilt, but still requires a cure)
- Situation is consequential of curse from Adam’s sin
- Condemnation is for unbelief (not because it’s an unforgiven sin, but because it’s the only means of escape)

If this is what is meant by “sin nature,” then the concept is valid, but the terminology has baggage.

**Evil:**
“It is part of their being. It will inevitably manifest itself at some point.”

There is nothing in the repertoire of human behavior that can change them back from an “ogre” to the uncorrupted image of God.

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**Sin:**
- Nobody can do ANYTHING right
- 100% trend to transgress ALL THE TIME
- Total inability to do anything but evil
- Situational curse includes inability to do anything but evil or sin
- Condemnation and guilt for Adam’s transgression is shared by all dependents

If this is what is meant by “sin nature,” then the concept is not valid.

**Evil:**
“It is their nature. They cannot do otherwise.”

There is no capacity to choose anything good.

**Moral Evil** – willful infliction of unnecessary suffering and/or death

This could be unwitting or even pathological
Romans 8:8 (KJV)
8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

Romans 8:8 (NSV)
8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot believe the gospel.

1 John 3:2 (KJV)
2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

Genesis 20:6 (KJV)
6 And God said unto him in a dream, Yea, I know that thou didst this in the integrity of thy heart; for I also withheld thee from sinning against me: therefore suffered I thee not to touch her.

Romans 10:9 (KJV)
9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.
CHOICE REQUIRES LIMITATION

Person 1: Do you want to play a game?
Person 2: Sure!
Person 1: Okay. You go first.
Person 2: ...

Choice requires limitation. A choice cannot be made until the limitations or rules are known. The endless number of possibilities makes movement toward a desirable goal effectively impossible. It is for this reason, that despite people being extremely interested in doing the right thing, such as Cornelius, that no one seeks after God. The limitations or rules for choice must be declared. This is why Cornelius is told to listen to Peter, “Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved” (Acts 11:14). This is why Romans 10:14 says, “How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?”

Just like a person being presented with a chess board for the first time ever, the only thing making choice impossible is the lack of knowing what limitations apply. “Seeking” for that limitation would never yield the correct results. Calvinism teaches that a lost person lacks the capacity to choose anything spiritually good, even after being presented with the choice to do so.

But scripture is clear that the lack of authoritative information (The Gospel) is the only thing preventing people from making a choice or believing on Christ.
Romans 7:14-25 (KJV)
14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.
15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.
16 If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good.
17 Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.
18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.
19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.
20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.
21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.
22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:
23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.
24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?
25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

Inside every human (saved or lost) is a formidable opponent who, if granted access will do unspeakable things. The unspeakable nature of this potential is achieved incrementally, progressively, and gradually. It is a level of capability which the average mind will immediately denounce as something that could never happen.

This unspeakable potential is most dangerous when it is denied. Paul knew that this dark inner self had to be acknowledged, integrated and mitigated in order for the Christian to be able to move on to sustained practical application of chapters 12-16 across the most dire of circumstances in which Christians would find themselves over the coming centuries.

History shows that most people are basically well behaved due to the conservative nature of their milieu. Given opportunity, wealth, legal clearance, or hierarchical or peer pressure, humans can be influenced to perform the unthinkable, and they will. To truly understand the nature of the sinful creature that the human is, the individual must see themselves as the villains of history in a dramatic fashion, enjoying and relishing it. Then that villain must be acknowledged, integrated, mitigated, and respected just as one would respect any potential formidable opponent. This is the situation until glorification delivers us from that villain.
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The shadow and the crowd.

Exposure of an individual’s “shadow” is usually avoided for the sake of the accountability that goes along with individual exposure. But make individuals an anonymous member of an unaccountable crowd, and they will be shouting “crucify him” or burning down Milwaukee in no time.

But more subtly, they will participate in the lie of a dysfunctional organization. Lies of commission, internal justification, and lies of omission about what is going on characterize anything from the murderous Soviet regime that killed between 20 and 60 million people to the local church or denomination that co-opts the concept of Christianity for social or monetary advantage.

The same inner being that would torture a Jew in a concentration camp is the same spirit that will keep quiet in a system (or a church) despite knowing that something is not right.

Those Christians who have deceptive Calvinist pastors, and write in about dealing with it, they are going to meetings, speaking up, talking to deacons and trying to do something about the situation. These kind of people are following the example of Christ, by taking the responsibility for the existence of sin upon themselves, being willing to face “crucifixion” as a possible outcome, and trying to remedy the problem with a restoration to sound doctrine.
Willingness to falsify the nature of one’s own experience...

- Lampwick
- Environment
- Lack of good answers to questions
- Pinocchio lies about how he feels
- Then his aim and orientation gets impaired
- Sideways 8 symbolizes an infinite number of options
- Later, he turns into a jack-ass which has no ability to cognitively speak truth
Romans 1:18 (KJV)
18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

Romans 2:7 (KJV)
7 To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:

Romans 2:10 (KJV)
10 But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:

Romans 3:10 (KJV)
10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

Romans 3:23 (KJV)
23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Romans 6-8:14 – Sin and the believer, behaviorally
WHAT ABOUT THE LACK OF GLORY?!!?!!

Genesis 1:27 (KJV)
27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Genesis 5:1-3 (KJV)
1 This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him;
2 Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.
3 And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth:

Ephesians 2:5 (KJV)
5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) (Rom. 10:9)

2 Corinthians 4:4 (KJV)
4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Colossians 1:15 (KJV)
15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

Colossians 3:10 (KJV)
10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:
Romans 8:15-30 (KJV)

15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.
16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:
17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.
18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.
19 For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.
20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope,
21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.
22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.
23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.
24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?
25 But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.
26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.
27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.
28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.
29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.
30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.
1 Thessalonians 5:23 (KJV)

23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 4:12 (KJV)

12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.
Un-regenerated (dead spirit, fallen and dying body)

Regenerated (spirit revived)

Glorified (new body) Image of God restored

Belief
Man is born as a fallen “ogre” separated from God.
His own works and effort do not contain the capability to reconcile him to God.
- fallen condition
- consequential location
- inability to do everything right
John 3:18 (KJV)
18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Romans 5:2 (KJV)
2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.
Matthew 13:44 (KJV)

44 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.

2 Corinthians 5:19-20 (KJV)

19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

SINNER IS STILL LOST

FAITH IS POINT OF ACCESS FOR GRACE

ATONEMENT/RECONCILIATION

JESUS CHRIST – "THE WAY"

GLORIFICATION ADOPITON (Rom. 8:23)
Colossians 2:14 (KJV)

14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;
SIN

TWO ASPECTS

TRANSGRESSION

CONSEQUENCE

REMEDY

DEATH, BURIAL, RESURRECTION

ADOPTION / GLORIFICATION

Romans 5:10 (KJV)

10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.
Closing

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