

THE DEPRAVITY OF MAN

"There is no one righteous, not even one; ¹¹there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. ¹²All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one." ²³... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...

Romans 3:10-12, 23 (NIV)

❖ The Ground is Level at the Foot of the Cross:

You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things. ²Now we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth. ³So when you, a mere man, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment? ⁴Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance? ⁵But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed. ⁶God "will give to each person according to what he has done."

Romans 2:1-6 (NIV)

1. There is no one that is RIGHTEOUS on their own.

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.

1 John 1:8-10 (NIV)

2. There is not one of us that has the right to JUDGE others.

"Do not judge, or you too will be judged. ²For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Matthew 7:1-2 (NIV)

3. There will be a day of JUDGEMENT for all people

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

2 Corinthians 5:10 (NIV)

❖ God is Patient on Purpose with All People:

Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance?

Romans 2:4 (NIV)

Who in the world do you think you are to second-guess God? Do you for one moment suppose any of us knows enough to call God into question?

Romans 9:20 (MSG)

1. God shows His love to all people by being KINDLY DISPOSED toward them.
Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief.
1 Timothy 1:13 (NIV)

"Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."
John 15:13 (NIV)

2. God reveals His love to all people by His FORBEARANCE toward them.
I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone--²for all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.
1 Timothy 2:1-4 (NIV)

3. God proves His love for all people by being LONGSUFFERING with them.
The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.
2 Peter 3:9 (NIV)

❖ Our Salvation is Through Jesus Christ Alone:

But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²²This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished--²⁶He did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. ²⁷Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith.

Romans 3:21-27 (NIV)

1. Through our faith in Jesus Christ we are JUSTIFIED.
For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.
Romans 10:10 (NIV)
2. Through our faith in Jesus Christ we are REDEEMED.
In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace...
Ephesians 1:7 (NIV)
3. Through our faith in Jesus Christ we are ATONED for.
This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.
1 John 4:10 (NIV)