

Chapter 2

The Depravity of Man

Definitions – Write out two definitions of depravity.

Secular source:

Bible dictionary or other religious source:

Now read Romans 3:10-12 in the New International Version.

What does this imply about the quantitative nature of depravity?

What can be said about the quality of life for the depraved man?

Depravity a matter of perspective

Man's perspective

Secular humanism and mankind in general have desired many ways of explaining away or discrediting the view that man is basically bad by nature. List some of the ways this is done.

God's perspective

In the following chart, write in God's view of these actions.

Verse	Action	Man's View	God's View
1 Sam. 15:23	Rebellion	Being myself	
Mt. 5:28	Lust	Admiration of beauty	
Mt. 5:21, 22	Angry with brother	Expressing feelings	
Col. 3:5	Greed	Conservative with possessions	
James 4:4	Love of the world	Ambitious	

Developing the doctrine from scripture

The sinful state of man is the first manifestation of depravity

In Greek, the word “sin” is HAMARTIA, “to miss the mark.” What do the following verses tell us about sin?

Proverbs 20:9

Ecclesiastes 7:20

Romans 3:23

Romans 5:21

Romans 6:23

How is this state manifested in us?

What do the following verses tell us about our sinful state?

Romans 3:9

Romans 3:10-12

Romans 5:12, 18, 19

Galatians 2:16; 3:19, 22

1 John 3:8

What does James 2:10 tell us about God’s view of sin in terms of its severity?

How many times would someone have to sin to die spiritually (come under the judgment of God)? Explain fully.

The second manifestation of depravity in man is his total enslavement. The verses below reveal who or what enslaves mankind. Read the verse and then describe the enslavement.

- John 8:34

What is this slavery a result of? Romans 6:16, 17

Is it total? Romans 6:20

- Hebrews 2:14, 15

Describe this slavery – 2 Timothy 2:26

What do Acts 26:18 and Colossians 1:13 tell you about the nature of this enslavement?

How do 2 Corinthians 4:4, Ephesians 6:11-13, and Hebrews 2:14, 15 reveal Satan's ability to enforce this slavery?

- Romans 8:21

Does this extend beyond simply men?

Does it include men? 2 Peter 2:19

- Romans 6:19 – what two areas are represented here?

- Galatians 4:3

- Romans 5:17

The third manifestation of depravity is our fleshly nature.

How does 1 Corinthians 2:14 describe man?

How does Colossians 3:5-9 represent the natural man's relationship to his flesh?

What does Romans 6:6 and 8:5 tell you of the influence of the flesh on mankind?

Depravity fourthly manifests itself in its consequences. Describe the consequences as listed below.

John 3:18, 36; Romans 5:18

Luke 19:9, 10

How do these verses further describe this second condition?

2 Corinthians 4:4

1 Corinthians 2:14

Romans 11:32; Hebrews 9:27

Revelation 20:11-15

Revelation 14:10, 11

Summary: In two or three sentences, summarize the doctrine of depravity.

Application

How will a proper understanding of depravity better aid us in our worship of God?

How will a better understanding of the depravity aid us in proper fellowship with one another?

How will a better understanding of depravity be of use to us in the area of personal evangelism?

How would a proper understanding of this doctrine aid in the development of a proper self-image?

How would a lack of conviction in this area affect a disciple's walk with God? List below five areas you feel would be affected by a lack of proper convictions, with a brief explanation of each