

Original Sin

The disobedience of Adam the first man was the first sin. This sin by the representative all of mankind that of necessity would flow from this now corrupt root corrupts all that follows by natural generation. The depth of this sin in the nature of mankind is so deep that even infants still in the womb are already infected with this vile nature. From this sin nature flows all sorts of sins that flow of necessity from the root thereof and are of such a great degree they are sufficient to condemn all mankind in the court of the great God of creation. This nature is so vile that it is not abolished in regeneration since foul water must always spring forth from a polluted spring.

By His grace and mercy alone God does not impute this sin to the elect unto condemnation but of His grace and mercy alone forgives them. This in no way allows the elect to rest in their sin. Regeneration brings to the elect a sense of the depth and vileness of their sin nature and causes them to desire to be delivered from this present body of death that they might be born again with a body incorruptible and eternal. (See The Belgic Confession Article XV)

Our first father (Adam) fled from the presence of God because of this sinful nature and his inability to save Himself. In the Reformed churches this is known as total depravity. This indicates the depth and breadth of the corruption of the person and not the degree of sin involved. It also points to the inability of mankind to extract itself from this vile pit and life in the outer darkness knowing not the God who created them.

From the beginning of the sinful nature God in His infinite mercy set before mankind the promise of His Son who would bruise the head of the serpent and make man blessed with the presence of God. Man threw himself into this vile pit of his own choice. God extracted him from the mire of the pit by His mere grace alone. (See Belgic Confession Article XVII)

This doctrine of original sin is not hidden or simply implied. Its reality screams at mankind from the pages of the Bible. Yet, we see the vast majority of mankind attempt to follow the footsteps of the first father Adam in attempting to cover themselves with the first fig leaf available. The Bible minces no words and plainly says without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin. The depth of corruption however is so great that without the washing of the Holy Spirit in regeneration man cannot see this simple truth. Instead of falling prostrate before a Holy God and calling upon His mercy man continues to attempt to wash himself as if the corrupt blood of another could wash away the foul odor of sin from him. From the beginning this was never true and all the blood of every animal on earth has never and will never save the first soul from the fires of hell.

Rather than bow to the God of creation even the more learned in the Sacred Writ haggle over words and tenses in an effort to leave some credit to man for the salvation of mankind though such credit be no more than having the wisdom to see the God of creation. It is sad that those whom God in His providential care and love has given the benefit of a biblical education rather than shouting the simple truth of the Son of God

alone from the mountain tops point to the autonomy of man and the free will (choice) set before Adam. While our scholars attempt to explain how it is all mankind is corrupt and Jesus Christ was born of a woman sinless another generation falls to the wiles of the devil and knows not Jesus Christ. Truly it is written that the word condemns (kills) but that the Spirit sets man free.

God says that all mankind has sinned in Adam and is condemned already. Now it matters not whether we have some scholar who can reduce this even further and explain how this can be in the logic of the created because God has spoken. To these so-called scholars and wordsmiths God says, "except ye repent ye shall likewise perish." The message is simple, you are dead in sin and only the blood of Jesus Christ can save you from yourself.

The church of God rushes headlong into the abyss believing herself to be about the work of God by creating seeker friendly churches. This is a lie from hell too. The Bible says that not one single human being ever has or ever will seek God. The work God has set before the church is not the conversion of the first soul as if she had such power. The Bible says to the church that her purpose is for the gathering and the maturing of the saints. These mature saints are to take the good news of Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth. The saints are not the message but messengers from the throne of God to a lost and dying world. All the church has to offer is Jesus Christ. It is pure foolishness then to invest time and money developing programs and facilities to attract those who are seeking God into the church to hear this message. Preach to the assembled saints and do not be ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Proclaim Christ boldly in and out of season in the byways of the world. This is the cure for original sin and will staunch the flow of evil from that corrupt fountainhead.

Dr. Chuck Baynard August 5, 2004