

<i>Romans : The Gospel of God's Righteousness</i>							
Divisions	Intro 1:1- 1:17)	Righteous Condemnation (1:18-3:20)	Righteous Reconciliation (3:21-5:21)	Righteous Transformation (6:1-8:39)	Righteous Calling (9:1-11:36)	Righteous Living (12:1-15:33)	Conclusion (16:1-27)
Theme	Sin		Salvation	Sanctification	Security	Service	
Focus	<i>Doctrinal</i>					<i>Practical</i>	

massa peccati

“mess of sin”

Total depravity

James Boice:

“It is vitally important that we come to terms with this bad tendency to run from the truth about ourselves. Without an accurate knowledge of our sin, we will never come to know the meaning of God’s grace. With an awareness of our pride, we will never appreciate God’s greatness, nor will we come to God for the healing we so desperately need. The situation is a bit like being sick and needing a doctor. As long as we are convinced we are well (or at least almost well), we will not seek medical care. But if we know we are spiritually sick, we will turn to the Great Physician, Jesus Christ, who alone is able to heal us.”

Three views of humanity:

- 1) Man is well
- 2) Man is sick
- 3) Man is dead (Eph 2:1-3)

Few messages:

1. Total depravity should always keep us humble, keeping us from judgmentalism.
2. An acceptance of total depravity prepares us for God’s mercy and grace.
3. Feeling the weight of total depravity is a sign that you are a Christian. Unbelievers do not sit around and feel conviction about their sin. It is a sign of the presence of the Holy Spirit (Jn 16:8).
4. A persistent conviction that you are totally depraved is a sign of Christian maturity, even more so than our ability to abstain from certain sins.
5. For those who are afraid to come before God, in God’s eyes, you have no less credentials than the most righteous person you know. It is not about shame and fear, but a willingness to accept grace.
6. Not seeing yourself as the “chief of sinners” may be the greatest sin of all which is keeping you from God. Do you have your hands over your mouth? Are you undone?