

- Sin is like a loathsome disease!

- “Until sin be bitter, Christ will not be sweet.” (Thomas Watson)

THESIS — Psalm 53 teaches about man’s sinfulness.

I. MAN’S RADICAL CORRUPTION (1-5)

- A. corrupt in his **heart** (1a)
- B. corrupt in his **deeds** (1b, 3a)
- C. corrupt in his **mind** (2b)
- D. corrupt in his **worship** (2b)
- E. corrupt in his **disposition** (3a)
- F. corrupt in his **nature** (3b-4)
- G. corrupt in his **conscience** (5)

- Here are some conclusions on the sinfulness of sin in all people:
 1. There is the seed of the worst of evils in all of us
 2. We are all lost and dead and helpless in our sinful nature inherited from Adam.
 3. We can’t come to God; nor is man *willing* to come to God. Lost men hate God.
 4. Man’s pride is so blinding that he can’t detect or discern the sinfulness of his sin.
 5. God’s anger and wrath increases as man’s sin increases thru the duration of his life.
 6. Man is a deformed monster - sin is madness; it is anti-God and the ‘murder of God.’
 7. Sinful man can do outward deeds of kindness but springing from a heart of sinful arrogance (thus not pleasing to God)

II. GOD’S RADICAL SALVATION (6)

1. the **SOURCE** - God

Psalm 53 — "Man's Radical Corruption"

2. the **GIFT** - deliverance/salvation
3. the **RECIPIENTS** - his people
4. the **RESULT** - gladness/rejoicing

A proper view of sin (by Joseph Hart)

1

Come hither, ye that fain would know The exceeding sinfulness of sin;
Come see a scene of matchless woe, And tell me what it all can mean.

2

Behold the darling Son of God Bowed down with horror to the ground,
Wrung at the heart, and sweating blood, His eyes in tears of sorrow drowned!

3

See how the Victim panting lies, His soul with bitter anguish pressed;
He sighs, he faints, he groans, he cries, Dismayed, dejected, shocked, distressed.

4

What pangs are these that tear his heart? What burden's this that's on him laid?
What means this agony of smart? What makes our Maker hang his head?

5

'Tis Justice, with its iron rod, Inflicting strokes of wrath divine;
'Tis the avenging hand of God, Incensed at all your sins and mine.

6

Deep in his breast our names were cut; He undertook our desperate debt;
Such loads of guilt were on him put, He could but just sustain the weight.

7

Then let us not ourselves deceive; For, while of sin we lightly deem,
Whatever notions we may have, Indeed we are not much like him.

And, Joseph Hart wrote these words:

Dearly we are bought, for God
Bought us with his own heart's blood;
Boundless depths of love divine!
Jesus, what a love was thine!
Though the wonders thou hast done
Are as yet so little known,
Here we fix and comfort take –
Jesus died for sinners' sake.

ALAS & DID MY SAVIOR BLEED

Alas! and did my Savior bleed
 And did my Sovereign die?
 Would He devote that sacred head
 For such a worm as I?

Well might the sun in darkness hide
 And shut his glories in,
 When Christ, the mighty Maker died,
 For man the creature's sin.

Thy body slain, sweet Jesus, Thine,
 And bathed in its own blood,
 While all exposed to wrath divine,
 The glorious Sufferer stood!

Thus might I hide my blushing face
 While His dear cross appears,
 Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
 And melt my eyes to tears.

Was it for crimes that I had done
 He groaned upon the tree?
 Amazing pity! grace unknown!
 And love beyond degree!

But drops of grief can ne'er repay
 The debt of love I owe:
 Here, Lord, I give my self away
 'Tis all that I can do.

PSALM 53 (PSALTER)

Tune: *How deep the Father's love for us*

The God Who sits enthroned on high
 The foolish to their heart deny;
 Not one does good; corrupt in thought,
 Unrighteous works their hands have wrought.
 From heaven the Lord with searching eye
 Looked down the sons of men to try,
 To see if any understood
 And sought for God, the only Good.

Thy lowly servant they despise,
 Because he on the Lord relies;
 But they shall tremble yet in fear,
 For to the righteous God is near.
 O that from Zion, His abode,
 Salvation were on us bestowed!
 When God His exiles shall restore,
 They shall in song His grace adore.

From righteousness they all depart,
 Corrupt are all, and vile in heart;
 Yea, every man has evil done;
 Not one does good, not even one.
 Has knowledge with the wicked failed,
 That they My people have assailed,
 That they delight in works of shame,
 And call not on Jehovah's Name?

Original sin deals with our depravity. Inability deals with the fact that our own depravity is humanly irremediable. Man is totally unable to change or act in a way that is different from it....

Inability does not mean the loss of natural liberty. This refers to free agency, namely, that man exercises volition according to his character. Inability presupposes liberty....

... inability means that in sin man is not only indisposed and made opposite to all good but that he is totally unable to be otherwise. It is inability to discern, love, or choose the things that are well pleasing to God. He cannot know them because they are spiritually discerned; he cannot love them because his mind is enmity against God; he cannot choose them because those in the flesh cannot please God.

— John Murray, "Inability," in *Collected Writings of John Murray*