

The Gospel – Part 2

Man

Elements of the Gospel:

Part 1: God is the _____.

Part 2: Man is the _____.

Unbelievers need to understand that:

- People are neither _____ nor _____.
- All people are _____.

Biblical definitions for sin:

- To miss the _____. Judges 20:16; Romans 3:23. This is the most common idea.
- To pass over a _____, to pass by. Normally translated “transgression.” A transgressor is a lawbreaker. Numbers 14:41–42; Matt 15:2–3; 1 John 3:4
- To _____. Rebellion is a stubborn disobedience - sin with a bad attitude. Isaiah 1:2–4.
- To pervert or make _____. Isaiah 19:14
- Others: foolishness, _____, disobedience, ignorance, _____, trespass.

The essential or basic aspect of sin is _____, placing oneself in the place of God; a failure to let God be God.

Sin is also a principle _____ man. All men have a sin nature (Galatians 3:22). Sin is a condition, a character quality or state of being.

- Sins of _____: doing what should not be done. 1 Timothy 5:13
- Sins of _____: failing to do what should have been done. James 4:17

The consequence of sin is death. Romans 6:23

- Spiritual death occurs because of sin. Spiritual death is the separation of the _____ from God (Isaiah 59:1–2). The unsaved person is currently in a state of spiritual death (Ephesians 2:1–2) and is condemned (John 3:36).
- Physical death occurs because of sin. Physical death is the separation of the _____ from the body.
- The Second Death occurs because of sin (Revelation 20:14). Those who continue in their sinful condition will be _____ separated from God in a place of eternal punishment called hell.

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- **Sin extends to the whole of man's being. Man is totally _____.**

Total depravity does not mean that every person's lifestyle is equally corrupt and wicked, or that sinners are always as bad as they can be. Total depravity does mean that the unredeemed are depraved in their minds, their hearts, their wills, their emotions, and their physical beings. They are utterly incapable of anything but sin. Sinners may not always sin as wickedly as possible, but they cannot do anything to please God or earn His favor. Sin has tainted every aspect of their being.¹

Sin has penetrated every _____ of man – body, soul and spirit. Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:11–12; Titus 1:15

The unsaved person has the capacity to commit the worst kinds of sin. Given the proper circumstances, _____ sin is possible. Romans 1:18ff.

When an unbeliever does do right, it is for the _____ reasons. Such good works do not aid in salvation [are not meritorious]. Isaiah 64:6

Sin causes _____ —sinners are getting worse and worse. 2 Timothy 3:13

The unsaved person has no _____ means of salvation within himself. He is dead and condemned. He is unable and unwilling to seek God or seek forgiveness. Romans 3:10–11; Ephesians 2:1–2

Other Key Verses: Isaiah 64:6–7; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 1: 18ff, 3:10–23, 7:7–25; Philippians 3:4–6

Main Point:

The unbeliever has _____ against his Creator and is dead in trespasses and sin. He is separated from God and under His wrath and condemnation.

Key Question: Why do people deny the fact that your sin has separated you from God, prevented a right relationship with Him, and will eventually result in eternal punishment?

False Views of Sin

- **Pelagianism:** man has the ability to take the initial steps toward salvation by his own efforts, apart from special grace. Man possesses an unconditionally free will and has the power to choose either evil or good. God's saving grace is offered freely to all, and all respond as they choose.

P = _____ + _____

- **Semi-Pelagianism:** the power for man to do good is weak but not lost. God's grace and free will are mixed. Man and God cooperate in salvation.

SP = _____ + _____

- **Arminianism:** Man is sinful and weak, but retains the ability to do good. Man needs God's help in salvation. God extends such assistance to all men (called "prevenient grace"), who then of their own free will either accept or reject the offer of salvation.

¹ MacArthur, *Faith Works*, p. 65.

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A = _____ + _____ (Arminianism is the basis of _____ evangelism.)

▪ **The Correct (Biblical) View:**

Man is totally depraved. The unbeliever has no _____ to do good or seek God. God extends saving (special) grace only to the _____. God, not man, _____ who will be saved. He both _____ and brings to pass the salvation of the elect. Repentance and _____ are gifts from God and are not generated within man.

C = _____ + _____

(This is Calvinism. Calvinists do not deny that man has no part to play. Man participates, but does not cooperate.)

Conclusion:

The goal of this part of a gospel presentation is to show the unbeliever the dreadful state of his spiritual condition. He is lost, dead, and condemned. It's only after understanding this awful reality that one will begin to see his need of a savior.

For Further Discussion:

1. What would you say to a person who was religious (morally upright) but lost?

2. Why is it important to define sin when you are presenting the gospel?

3. What if the person you are talking to refuses to acknowledge his depraved spiritual condition?

4. Many churches orient their services to appeal to “seekers,” concerned unbelievers who are seeking after God. But the Bible states that “THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS, THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD” (Romans 3:11). How do you explain this apparent contradiction?