



### Section 3: Concerning Man (Cont.)

**Question 6:** Is man, in his currently depraved condition, capable of saving himself?

**Answer 6:** No, man is completely incapable of salvation based on any human merit.

**Memory Verse:** **Titus 3:5**

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

**Support Verses:** **Galatians 3:10-11**

10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.  
11 But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith.

**Romans 7:5**

For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death.

**Ephesians 2:11-12**

11 Wherefore remember, that ye *being* in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;  
12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

#### **Discussion Points:**

1. The effects of the Law on man's current condition.

- The law renders any work that man does useless toward salvation.
- He is "dead in trespasses and sins." (Ephesians 2:1)
- And therefore, he cannot produce, as a dead man, any work pleasing to God.
- Just as the consequence for Adam was death, so too, man born to Adam (after his likeness) is born dead to God.
- Man's condition would be termed "depraved."

2. Is man capable of any good in his current condition of depravity?

- The answer would be yes, but with a qualifier as to the context.
- Man is capable of a good, kind, compassionate, merciful, noble work in his current depraved condition, however, no work of man in his current condition is capable of securing or producing salvation.
- Any work that man does in his current depraved condition is produced from a tainted source, a fallen nature.



- Man's works in this condition; even his best works are described as filthy rags. (Isaiah 64:6-7)
- Even those works that we do that may be considered good or righteous are held to the standard of perfect, complete righteousness as found in the law and fulfilled only in the person of Jesus Christ.
- For man in this condition, the source has been tainted.
- And the standard is so high that the demand is absolute righteousness according to the law.
- It matters not that you may demonstrate a beautiful act of kindness or compassion, what matters is your relationship to God.
- And until you have one, you are still depraved.

3. The solution to man's condition of depravity?

- If we were able to continue keeping the law in "all things" then it would be able to give life, salvation.
- But because of the "motions so sin" (effects of or influence of sin) in our flesh we are rendered incapable of any result other than ultimate corruption... The fruit being death.
- Christ is the only hope for man in this condition.
- Man, who is dead in trespasses and sins, must be made alive unto God in Jesus Christ.
- And the perfect work of Jesus Christ in the fulfillment of all the righteousness of the Law is credited to the man to whom it is applied by God according to faith.

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Psalms, Hymns, Spiritual Songs:

- "The Solid Rock" (Hymn #383 - Rejoice Hymns)
- "Jesus, I Am Resting, Resting" (Hymn # - Rejoice Hymns)