



The Human Condition

Memory Text: “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.” ([Romans 3:23](#)).

Additional Verses for Meditation and Study This Week:

Romans 1:16-17, 22-32; 2:1-10, 17-24; 3:1-2, 10-18, 23; Revelation 3:17-21;

Main Thought for the Week: Before we can accept Jesus Christ as our Savior, we need to accept our otherwise helpless and hopeless condition. We can never accept Christ if we think we are fine the way we are ([Revelation 3:17-21](#)). Paul emphasizes that we have all sinned, and thus need a Savior. But he also emphasizes that our past need not dictate our future. God has made a way for us to break the shackles of our slavery to sin. We need to accept it by faith. It is **faith in Jesus**, and not merely *knowledge of Jesus*, that will save each of us from our sins and sinful condition.



The Power of God

Sunday's Summary – October 15:

1. What is the active power in the salvation of man?

Romans 1:16-17 _____

1 Corinthians 1:18,23-24 _____

1 Peter 1:5 _____

Discuss/Consider: Do you ever struggle with doubt concerning God's assurance of your salvation? How can the verses above help you to rest in the promise of God's power to save?

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



All Have Sinned

Monday's Summary – October 16:

1. How clear is the Bible about who has sinned?

Romans 3:23 _____

Romans 3:10-12 _____

Ecclesiastes 7:20 _____

Hebrews 4:15 _____

Discuss/Consider: There is little disagreement that all have sinned, but there is much debate on whether or not we have to keep sinning. Does the Bible offer us any hope for the current sinful human condition? _____

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



Progress?

Tuesday’s Summary – October 17:

SUMMARY THOUGHTS: At the turn of the twentieth century, people lived with the idea that humanity was improving, that morality would increase, and that science and technology would help usher in a utopia. Human beings, it was believed, were essentially on the path toward perfection. Unfortunately, things didn’t quite turn out that way, did they? Instead, the twentieth century was one of the most violent and barbaric in all of human history, thanks - ironically enough - in great part to the advances of science, which made it much more possible for people to kill others on a scale that the most depraved madmen of the past could only dream about.

1. How does God view human wisdom?

Romans 1:22-23 _____

1 Corinthians 1:19-21 _____

1 Corinthians 3:18-20 _____

Discuss/Consider: By rejecting God what have humans in our century come to worship and idolize instead? (Romans 1:22-32) _____

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



What Jews and Gentiles Share in Common

Wednesday's Summary – October 18:

1. Does knowing God's laws automatically make us better than those who do not know them?

Romans 2:1-3 _____

Isaiah 9:15-17 _____

Romans 2:17-24 _____

Matthew 23:1-4 _____

Discuss/Consider: How often do we, even if only in our own minds, condemn others for things that we, ourselves, are guilty of? What is the solution? _____

SUMMARY THOUGHTS: The Bible makes a strong and continuous point that none of us is righteous; none of us meet the divine standard; none of us are innately good or inherently holy. Jew or Gentile, male or female, rich or poor, God-fearing or God-rejecting, we all are condemned. Were it not for the grace of God as revealed in the gospel, there would be no hope for any of us. Thank God for Jesus Christ.

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



The Gospel and Repentance

Thursday’s Summary – October 19:

1. What ultimately happens to those who resist God’s love and remain in disobedience?

Matthew 12:31-32 _____

Romans 2:5-11 _____

2 Thessalonians 2:8-12 _____

Ephesians 4:30 _____

ILLUMINATION: A terrible picture of the condition of the world has been presented before me. Immorality abounds everywhere. Licentiousness is the special sin of this age. Never did vice lift its deformed head with such boldness as now. The people seem to be benumbed, and the lovers of virtue and true goodness are nearly discouraged by its boldness, strength, and prevalence. The iniquity which abounds is not merely confined to the unbeliever and the scoffer. Would that this were the case, but it is not. Many men and women who profess the religion of Christ are guilty. **Even some who profess to be looking for His appearing are no more prepared for that event than Satan himself.** They are not cleansing themselves from all pollution. They have so long served their lust that it is natural for their thoughts to be impure and their imaginations corrupt.

– Ellen G. White, *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 2*, p. 346

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



Wrapping It All Up...

Friday's Summary – October 20:

Reflections on the week...

Appeal: We encourage you to ask God to reveal to you if you are ignoring your own sins by focusing on the sins of those around you, and ask Him for His forgiveness. _____

Final Thoughts: At Metro New York World Ministry, we seek to remind our listeners that we are justified by faith – **without the works of the law** – but that we are also saved UNTO good works. Although human effort can't bring salvation, it is part of the whole experience of salvation. True repentance, which can only come from the work of the Holy Spirit upon the heart, will always be followed by a determination to overcome and put away the things that we need to repent of. Only by looking at Jesus Christ – His life, death, resurrection and ongoing ministry – can we be made into the divine pattern. We are not to compare ourselves among ourselves, or seek the wisdom of mankind, but we are to look to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith (**Hebrews 12:2**).

PERSONAL NOTES: _____
