

The Evil in Men

--7/3/2011, Sun Valley, tp

Introduction

A. Psalm 14 quoted in Romans 3 and applied to all men.

1. The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good."

2. This is the sad universal state of all men.

3. This is the reason God sent his Son, John 3:16. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in should not perish, but have everlasting life."

B. We will examine why man cannot be the measure of all things.

I. Men have done terrible and evil things.

A. Bible records the earliest evils committed by men.

1. Cain murdered his brother Abel out of anger and resentment.

2. Genesis 6:5 "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

3. Genesis 19:1-11 The men of Sodom tried to "sodomize" the two angels who came to Sodom.

4. Genesis 27:41 "And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob."

5. Genesis 34 Canaanite Shechem raped Dinah. Simeon and Levi slaughtered the whole city in vengeance.

6. Genesis 37 The patriarchs sold Joseph into bondage, then lied to their father Jacob causing him to grieve the rest of his life believing some wild animal had killed his son.

7. Exodus begins with the story of an Egyptian Pharaoh who ordered the murder of all newborn Israelite boys.

8. In the Judges, when every man did what was right in own eyes, we have many tales of evil and enormous atrocities. The history of Abimelech, the son of Gideon who murders his 70 brothers, takes the throne as king and murders other thousands until a woman drops a stone on his head and kills him. The history of Samson during the wars and oppression of the Philistines, he marries a Philistine and is betrayed then again falls in love with Delilah who betrays him for money. Add to that the story of the tribe of Benjamin, the most warlike tribe, almost completely slaughtered while supporting one of their cities that committed a Sodom type offense against a Levite and his concubine.

9. 1 Samuel tells us of the tyranny of King Saul in demanding the death of David only because he was jealous of the public affection that David began to receive.

10. 2 Samuel tells us of the great King David committing adultery with the wife of one his most loyal soldiers Uriah the Hittite. Then records the murder of Uriah by tyrannical decree.

-- among his children, Amnon the firstborn raped his half-sister so Absalom murdered Amnon

-- eventually Absalom plotted the overthrow of his father and openly violated his father's wives. In the war that followed, Joab murdered Absalom.

11. 1 Kings tells us the evil done by Ahab and his queen Jezebel. They slaughtered all of the prophets that were true to the Lord with the exception of Elijah. When Ahab wanted the vineyard that belonged to Naboth, his wife ordered a conspiracy of worthless men to falsely accuse Naboth and had him stoned to death.

12. The religion of the nations around Israel eventually overtook Israel and Judah and they built altars for the sacrifice of human beings, their children. The high place near Jerusalem was called Tophet and overshadowed the valley of the sons of Ben Hinnom, or Gehenna, the hell of Jesus'

teachings.

13. The sins of the world were summarized in Romans 1 as a kind of uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves. Verse 25 God gave them up to vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use unto that which is against nature. Paul describes in discreet detail the evil practice of homosexual women and men.

-- They were **filled with all unrighteousness**, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness, full of envy, murder... v. 29-32.

14. Remember the voices that cried out that Jesus be crucified. That was evil and wicked. Jesus had done nothing but teach the will of their God, and expose their hypocrisies.

15. Remember the evil of Acts 7 at the stoning of Stephen. "They gnashed on him with their teeth."

B. Let's add some historical examples of the evils that men are capable of today.

1. American mothers have murdered their unborn children since 1973 equal the population of 20 of our heartland states. Were it not for immigration, our population would be less today than it was 20 years ago.

2. 2 million Americans are in prison. China has 1.5 in prison, Russia 870,000. Expected punishment if arrested for a crime: Murder-3.0 years, Rape-125 days, Robbery-59 days, Burglary-9 days. (National Council for Policy Analysis, Crime and Punishment in America, 1999.) In 2004 - 16,137 homicides but only 59 executed... a failure of 99.96 %.

3. In the 20th Century, Hitler killed 6 million men, women, and children just because they were judged inferior or hostile races. Communist Proletariat committees in China, Russia, and Southeast Asia added another 100 million murders by execution or starvation, etc. of people judged uncooperative to the goals of the state. The slaughter continues in North Korea.

4. Hundreds of thousands have died in recent years in the Middle East from the savagery of Muslim tribal conflicts and wars fought at the command of the Mullahs or spiritual leaders of their countries. They die by torture, beheading, stoning, or simply with a bullet in the head. Women are raped routinely to break the spirit of the enemies. Girls are mutilated and if they embarrass their families they are summarily executed by their closest relatives.

C. My question: Can anyone deny that men are filled with evil? That all men are capable of unspeakable crimes without the salvation brought by God?

1. I have not touched on the cannibalism practiced in the Americas and in the Pacific islands.

2. I have not mentioned men like John Wayne Gacy who in this country have raped boys, killed them and eaten them.

3. What of the teachers in our schools who are seducing the children? What of the professors in the universities who likewise are willing and able to take advantage of their students? What of the rapes and murders that have become so common that we must post armed guards at nearly every school and university in this nation?

4. What standards of morality are followed now in or popular films and television shows? Fornication is the norm for the heroes and not just the villains. We watch endless depictions of murder, assault, and mayhem, not only by the bad guys but also the good guys... and now most of the guys are women dressed in seductive clothing.

5. Which of the commandments is not openly and proudly violated by modern men?

a. Others gods? Man is his own god.

b. Honor of parents? Fathers abandon their children and leave them in the care of the state, children abandon their parents in their old age and leave them to the care of the state.

c. Murder? Mothers abort their children, especially if they have downs syndrome. Murder is becoming common for anyone that gets in the way of someone's desire to reach for the golden ring.

d. Adultery? As soon as one falls out of love with one or falls in love with another, it is time for another divorce and a division of the home and children. Adultery starts in the heart every time someone watches a pornographic movie or another romantic story where someone's feelings just cannot be denied even though it may be wrong.

e. Theft? Is what you do to the large stores, corporations when you sue them for frivolous reasons. It is like winning the lottery! Theft is suing the doctors because they failed to work miracles on you or your loved one. Someone makes a mistake and now you can sue them for everything they own, everything they have legitimately earned by long years of work and preparation.

f. Lying or fraud? The corruption that infiltrates every nook and cranny of business to get ahead, progress, gain market share, displace co-workers. Deceit, conniving, undermining the integrity of good and honest people just because it is good business.

g. Coveting your neighbor's wife? We have become a nation of voyeurs shamelessly gawking at every man's wife as if she might be our own... committing adultery with her in our hearts.

C. Now, do you want to tell me that all men and women are basically good?

II. For this reason the first words to come out of the mouth of John and Jesus was "Repent"

A. Matthew 3:2 "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." v. 8 "Bring forth therefore fruits meet or repentance:"

1. Matthew 7:19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire."

2. Matthew 7:26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it."

3. Matthew 10:28 "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

4. Luke 13:1-5 Galileans were slaughtered by Pilate and 18 perished when the tower of Siloam fell on them... were they the greatest sinners? "I tell you, Nay: but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

B. The Gospel message always rang out this first demand.

1. Acts 2:38

2. Acts 3:19

3. Acts 17:30-31 God will judge the world in righteousness.

4. Romans 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness.

C. The Gospel message holds the only hope of escape from the slavery to sin.

1. Ephesians 2:1-10 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins... For we are his workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works...

2. Romans 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

-- v. 17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

3. You cannot live until first you learn that you are dead, have sinned, are evil and must repent and think differently toward God.