

REVERSING HERMON

Session 7: Two Sources of Human depravity

Learning objectives

By the end of this session, we shall be able to explain:

- Several causes of human depravity.
- Why God gave written laws.
- How Jesus counteracts our depravity.

HUMAN SOURCES

Human source (Dead Sea Scrolls)

“²¹ I am a creature of clay, fashioned with water, ²² a foundation of shame and a source of impurity, an oven of iniquity and a building of sin, a spirit of error and depravity without ²³ knowledge, terrified by your just judgments.” 1QHa IX.21–23

Human source

James 1 ¹⁴ Each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵ Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. ¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers.

DEMONIC SOURCES

Demonic source

Genesis 3 ⁴ The serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that when you [both] eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil...” ¹⁷ To Adam, Yahweh said, ... ¹⁹ “You shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken.”

Demonic source

Genesis 6 ⁴ The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of man and they bore children to them... ⁵ The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Demonic source

1 Enoch 15 ⁸ The giants who were begotten by the spirits and flesh—they will call them evil spirits upon the earth... ⁹ From the holy watchers was the origin of their creation. ¹¹ And the spirits of the giants lead astray, do violence, make desolate, and attack and wrestle and hurl upon the earth and cause illnesses.



Demonic source (Dead Sea Scrolls)

⁴ Declare the splendor of (God’s) radiance in order to frighten and terrify ⁵ all the spirits of the ravaging angels and the bastard spirits, demons, Lilith, owls and [jackals...] ⁶ and those who strike unexpectedly to lead astray the spirit of knowledge.” 4Q510 (4QShira)

Demonic source (New Testament)

Ephesians 6 ¹² We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day.

WHY GOD GAVE WRITTEN LAWS

Why then the law?

Galatians 3 ¹⁸ The law, which came 430 years afterwards, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God... ¹⁹ Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made.”

Whose transgressions?

Romans 5 ¹³ Sin is not counted where there is no law. ¹⁴ Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam.

Jude 1 ⁶ The angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling...

Cosmic History

God	Angels	Humans
Creates	Sons of God	Adam & Eve
Warns		Adam
	Serpent s	Transgress
	Watchers transgress	Birth ‘giants’
	Watchers teach	War & illicit ‘arts’
Damns	Those Watchers	Drowned giants
Appoints	Watchers as gods	Over Gentiles
Promises		To Abraham
Covenants	Mediated by angels	With Israel
	Watchers empower	Giant clans
Gives Law		Suppress sin
Inspires		Holy prophets
Sends	Announce birth	Messiah Jesus
Jesus	Resists Satan	‘Second Adam’
Jesus	Casts out demons	Sets humans free
Jesus	Defeats Watchers	Redeems sinners
Jesus	Gives angel helpers	Builds his church
Jesus	Subjecting enemies	Prepares a kingdom

The Watchers' career

1 Creation	Singing
2 Eden	Gardeners
3 Serpent	Sedition, temptation
4 Fall	Guard tree of life
5 Jered	Transgressions
6 Flood	These are damned
7 Gentiles	Others rule
8 Divine council	Social injustice
9 Jesus' birth	Infanticide
10 Crucifixion	Regicide
11 Church age	False religion
12 Christ returns	Armies assemble
13 Kingdom age	Prepare revolt
14 New earth	Lake of fire

WE NEED A POWERFUL MEDIATOR

Enoch, a failed mediator

1 Enoch 15 ¹ Enoch... ² Go and say to the watchers of heaven, who sent you to petition in their behalf, "You should petition in behalf of humans... ¹⁶ ³ A stolen mystery you learned... Through this mystery the women and men are multiplying evils on the earth." ⁴ Say to them, "You will have no peace."

The successful mediator

Galatians 4 ⁴ When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law.

1 Timothy 2 ⁵ There is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all.

The superiority of Jesus Christ

Colossians 1 ¹⁶ By him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Jesus' unique titles

1 The Word	John 1:1
2 Only Son	John 3:16
3 Savior	John 4:42
4 The Way	John 14:6
5 Only Name	Acts 4:12
6 One Mediator	1 Timothy 2:5
7 One sacrifice	Hebrews 10:12