

First - The REASON: How did the world get so messed up?

Romans 5:12 (NASB) “Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned.”

Romans 3:10-12 (NASB) “There is none righteous, not even one; there is none who understands, there is none who seeks for God; all have turned aside, together they have become useless; there is none who does good, there is not even one. There are none righteous no not one. There is not a single person in all the earth who is always good and never sins.”



1. “hēmarton” - SIN

Romans 3:23 (NASB) “All have sinned and fallen short.”

2. “paraptoma” - TRANSGRESSION

Colossians 2:13 (NASB) “When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions.”

3. “adikia” - INIQUITY

Isaiah 53:6 (NASB) “All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him.”

Psalms 32:5 (NASB) “I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I did not hide; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD; and You forgave the guilt of my sin.”

Second - The RESULT: What’s the result of sin?

1. There are natural disasters.

Romans 8:20 (Amp) “Creation (nature) was subjected to frailty (to futility, condemned to frustration), not because of some intentional fault on its part.”

Romans 8:22 (NASB) “We know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.”



2. There is physical decay and death.

Romans 5:12 (NASB) “Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned.”

2 Corinthians 4:16 (NASB) “Do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.”

3. Emotional distress and disappointment.

Job 6:20 (Amp) “They were confounded because they had hoped; they came there and were bitterly disappointed.”

Romans 7:15 (NASB) “What I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate.”

4. Relational distance and discord.

Genesis 3:12 (NASB) “The man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate.”

5. Spiritual discontent and darkness.

What in the world happened?

Lamentations 2:22-24 (NASB) "The LORD'S lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. The LORD is my portion," says my soul."

Third - God's RATIONAL:

1. To give us a CHOICE.

Deuteronomy 30:15 (NASB) "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, and death and adversity."

2. To DEMONSTRATE His grace.

2 Peter 3:9 (NASB) "The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance."

Fourth - RESPONSE: How should I respond?

1. Receive God's grace.

Romans 5:17b (NASB) "Much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ."

2. Remember this world is temporary.

2 Corinthians 4:18 (NASB) "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal."

3. Reject man made solutions.

Romans 12:2 (NASB) "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

4. Reach out to others with God's love.

Romans 10:14-15 (NASB) "How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? ... Just as it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things!"

Application:

Ask God to show you the depth of your sinful nature. Identify your sin in the three areas Scripture speaks about.

- Sin (missing the mark)
- Transgression (intentionally going past what God says.)
- Iniquity (your natural inclination to wander)

What have you sought more than you've sought God?

Where have you rejected the "Living Water" for "cisterns" you've dug with your own hands?

Have you received God's grace?

What do you need to do based upon what God has shown you this morning?

What adjustments do you need to make in your life to accommodate His purposes for you?

Memory Verse: Romans 6:23 (NASB) "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."