

Week 5 Evangelism: What God has said about our Inability.

What has God said concerning Christ; must someone believe in order to be saved?

A person must believe what God has said about...

Their _____, in relationship to Christ.

Their _____, to meet the mark of Christ.

What God has _____ for us through Christ.

What God promises to _____ with those in Christ.

Last week we looked briefly at the **major truths** regarding **SIN**. We saw that the main issues regarding SIN can be put into these categories... **CAUSE-CONDITION-CONSEQUENCE**

The Situation: Truly understanding our sinfulness should lead us to total _____.

The Solution: Truly understanding our sinfulness should lead us to a _____ attempt to find a remedy, an escape.

And that is what we find in society... There are those who are willing to admit there is a God, and that they have gravely offended that God...and so they try and try in their own strength, according to their own ideas to make a way of escape...typically based on their ability to be good enough to appease God.

#2 Their inability, to meet the mark of Christ.

What we mean is that; Man in his sin is totally helpless to save himself. Man in his sin in _____ to please God enough in order to be saved.

We could read many verses that express the **Inability of Man**.

(See Rom 5:6, Rom 7:14, 18, Rom 7:24, Rom 8:3, Rom 8:5-8, Titus 3:5, Rom 3:20, Isa 64:6)

However, God often says more by what **he does** than what **he says**. Many times, **by how God acts** in scripture and **how he interacts** with humanity, and by **the way he chooses to do things** can tell us nearly as much as what God actually says.

#1 Adam & Eve **#2** Cain and Abel **#3** Israel in Egypt

#4 Jesus in Israel

Jesus _____ the Pharisees and other religious elite **who thought that they had been good enough** to warrant access to God. See *Commentary on Matthew passages*.

Matthew 23:27-28 You Pharisees try to make it look like you aren't sinful. You look like you are totally righteous on the outside, but the inside is still dead and rotten with sin. Your actions haven't taken care of the problem!

Matthew 5:20 If you want to try to earn access into God's kingdom on the basis of your works, you'll have to be so perfect in all your actions, that your righteousness puts to shame the most 'righteous people' in society. In other words, you can't.

Matthew 19:16-17 You are asking about being good enough to earn eternal life, don't you realize that there is only ONE who is truly good enough! But ok, if you want to try to be good enough to earn eternal life you need to keep all of God's commandments perfectly.

Matthew 19:19-22 The man is under the impression that he has indeed obeyed the law in everything always, since his youth. Jesus goes along with it, and decides to simply point out one single area that he knows the man will not be able to obey...proving that he has not in fact obeyed everything perfectly. Jesus wasn't confirming that the man had actually obeyed the law perfectly since his youth...he was proving that even breaking the law in one area, disqualifies you. (See James 2:10)

Matthew 19:25-26 The disciples are in shock, because the man who was asking had obviously tried very hard, devoutly and very earnestly to obey God in everything always...yet was unworthy of eternal life. The disciples are distraught because this would mean that no one can be saved...because it is impossible to be as good as God is good. It is impossible to follow the law perfectly without a single mess up. Jesus answers by saying, if you are trying to obtain salvation on the basis of man's ability to be good enough, then yes it is impossible. But if you are placing it on God's ability, it is possible!

Through these many accounts and Pauls' writings we can come to some clear conclusions about what God says about the **Inability of Man**.

Doctrine 1: God will not accept what sinful, fallen, man _____. Man in his fallen state cannot please God enough in order to be saved.

Doctrine 2-A: Man cannot be good enough because God _____ total perfection, absolute holiness in everything, always.

Doctrine 2-B: Man cannot be good enough according to his _____ effort, or _____ ability, in order to be acceptable to God.

Doctrine 3: God will _____ accept anyone according to their ideas or their ways of how to come to him.

Doctrine 4: God will never accept anyone on the basis of their _____, no matter how good their intentions may be.

Doctrine 5: Man is a sinner, separated from God, and utterly helpless and unable to save himself.

Doctrine 6: God _____ accepts what God does, because only what God does is holy and perfect in everything always.

Doctrine 7: Man needs God to do something for him if he is to be saved. Man needs God to offer a way to be acceptable and made right.

Doctrine 8: God has done something throughout history, called covenants. These covenants _____ a way for man to come to God through God's way.

Doctrine 9: In the OT, man needed to _____ these covenants were the only way he could come to God & each covenant included an acceptable, yet temporary, blood sacrifice for his sin.

Doctrine 10: In the NT, after the death of Christ, man needs to believe that Jesus is God's provision of a _____, acceptable blood sacrifice and that he is now the only way to be counted right before God.