

Eight Essential Elements of the Biblical Christian Gospel Series

Element 6: Receiving Jesus Christ / Responding to the Gospel / Key Components & Exchanges

Element 6V: Sin (Total Depravity & Sin Nature)

Sunday Bible Study Prepared by Gregory A. Weis for 10/30/2016 / 71st Lesson in 8 Essential Elements of the Biblical Christian Gospel Series / 22nd Lesson in Element 6

I. Eight Essential Elements: Outline & Overview

0. Intro: Proclamation / Pre-Evangelism / Disciples / Pole Fishing / Diagnostic Tools / 7 Missing Elements
1. God: Essential Biblical Attributes: (Non-Communicable & Communicable)
2. Man: Essential Biblical Attributes: (3 Issues / Culpability / Empowerment)
3. The 10 Commandments: (Exodus 20:1-17) & (Deuteronomy 5:1-21)
4. Historical Narrative of Israel & Warnings of Eternal Judgment Day: Gospel Presentations in Acts
5. Jesus Christ: Only Mediator: Intro to Christology: Bridge / Solution / Ministry / Atonement / Reign
6. Receiving Jesus Christ: (John 1:12-13) Responding: Key Components & Exchanges of Soteriology
7. The First 5 Steps into the Kingdom of Christ: Acts 2:37-47 (See Pt. I, E, 3 Above)
8. Maturing in Jesus Christ: 3 Tools of Grace - Vital Growth Ingredients / Necessity of Discipleship

II. **Messages 1 - 20: Elements 0 - 4: Defining Bad News (Gap):** God, Man, Decalogue & Christ as Israel (Telos)

III. **Messages 21- 49: Element 5: Jesus: Only Solution or Mediator / Christology** (1 Tim. 2:3-6) (Matt. 16:13-18)

IV. **Messages 50 - 68+: Essential Element 6: Receiving Jesus Christ / Responding to the Gospel / Exchanges**

(John 1:11-13) ¹² But to all who did λαμβάνω Him, who believed in His name, He gave the ἐξουσία to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

V. **Elements 6A – 6T: 20 Lessons: Receiving Jesus Christ: Intro to Biblical Soteriology:** (1 Cor. 2:6-13)

Note: Must Be Combined w/ Experience vs. Mere Theoretical Knowledge: (James 2:19-20) (Heb. 11:1-33-40)

Words So Far: Salvation, Save & Saved; Draw; Rescue &/or Deliver; **Receive**, Right (ἐξουσία / Authority & Power)

Regeneration Words: New Birth; Born Again; Made Alive / **Conversion Words (2 Components of Conversion):**

Convict; Confess; Contrite; Repent; **Repentance**; Remorse; Renunciation; Restitution; Reconciliation to Right Relationships; **Faith** (Trust, Follow, Rely On); Grace as Life-Long Journey; Justification; 8 Exchanges, Adoption

Words to Come: Redemption (Ransom), Election; Obedience, Discipleship, Sanctification & Maturation, Etc.

VI. **Review of Last Week: Elements 6U: Toward a Biblical Understanding of Sin (Original Sin)**

A. Misunderstood, Reduced, Wrongly Defined & Misapplied in Most Modern Manifestations of Christianity

B. Understanding & Becoming Fully Convicted of Sin is a Key to Overcoming Contemporary Compromised Complacency. (Real Zeal, Passion & Love) (**Rom. 5:20** "... where sin abounded, grace abounded much more ...)

C. **Essential to Grace Based Approaches Triumphant Over Performance Based.** (See also "E" Below)
(1 John 4:19) ¹⁹ We love, because He first loved us. (See also John 16:7-13)

D. **Some Definitions:** (Reduced vs. Toward More Complete)

(Jeremiah 17:9) The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?

(1 John 3:4) ⁴ Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness. (NASB / Cf. NKJV)

1. **Original Sin:** (Catholic – Starting w/ Augustine) (Reduced vs. Toward More Complete)

a.) The Sin that Adam committed. (See Genesis 3)

b.) A consequence of this first sin, the hereditary stain with which we are born on account of our origin or descent from Adam. ("the deliberate sin of the first man is the cause of original sin" from Augustine)

c.) Reduced to "hereditary stain" rather than an ongoing innate propensity. **Error Begets Error:**

i.) False Soteriological Doctrine of Baptismal Regeneration. (Waiting to Be Baptized.)

ii.) False Soteriological Doctrine of Works or Performance **Based** Acceptance.

(Twin psychological consequences of self-righteousness & self-condemnation & subsequent judgmentalism.)

iii.) False invention of "Purgatory" (Indulgences: Resulting from self-righteousness. e.g. Islam.)

VII. Today: Element 6V: Toward a Biblical Understanding of Sin (Total Depravity & Sin Nature)

A. Some Definitions Continued: (Reduced vs. Toward More Complete)

1. **Additional Introductory Scriptures: (Review from Above: Romans 5:20; Jer. 17:9; 1 John 3:4) (Read Psalms 32:1-5; 38:3, 18) (Also See Psalms 40; 51; 119:11; Etc.)**

(Isaiah 59:1-8) But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear. (John 16:7-13)

2. **Sin, Sins, Transgression & Iniquity: Explain Differences (Romans 3:20 below - Galatians 3:24)**

B. **Total Depravity:** (Reformed; Luther, Calvin, Knox, Edwards) (www.theopedia.com/total-depravity) (aka Total Inability or Total Corruption) (Note: Does not erase or obliterate the “*Imago Dei*.”) \

- a.) Bound to “suppress the truth of God.” Innately born to not love or seek God w/ our whole being.
- b.) Captive to Lawlessness; Self-Justification, Blame shifting, Apathy, Rebellion, Pride, Religion, Etc.
- c.) Blind by virtue of being spiritually dead. Unable to choose to love or serve God or help in choice.
- d.) Corrupt in every part of our nature or being, but not to complete erasure of the Image of God.
- e.) It does NOT mean we are perfected in wickedness, but rather ... (Some seeming good or growth)

(Romans 3:10-21) ¹⁰ as it is written, “THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE; ¹¹ THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS, THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD; ¹² ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS; THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD, THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE.” ²⁰ because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹ But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²² even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified as a gift by His grace (NASB) (Quoted from Psalms 14 & 53) (Also Romans 8:7-9)

(Ephesians 2:1-3) And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, ² in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. ³ Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest. (Colossians 1:13-14)

(2 Tim. 25b-26) ... if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, ²⁶ and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

(Genesis 6:5) ⁵ Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

(John 6:44a) ⁴⁴ No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; (John 16:7-13)

(1 Cor. 2:14) The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

C. **Sin Nature:** (Modern) (aka “Adamic Nature” or “Fallen Nature”) (aka “flesh” σάρξ / sárx)

- a.) Hebrew vs. Greek Cultural Backdrop & Application
- b.) Reduced by Both Dualistic Neo-Gnosticism & Antinomian Legalism (Explain)

D. **Key to EPDC Fruitfulness:** Grace vs. Performance; God’s Love vs. Human “Goodness” False Compassion “Deserve?” (Knowing what we really deserve is a key to grateful, grace-based, joyous, living.

Note: Real, Biblical Moral Authority / Biblical Disciple-making Models vs. Modern Decision-making Models

(Galatians 6:1-3) Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted. ²... ³For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. (Cf. Luke 18:9-14) (Cf. John 9:34 in its Context)

(1 John 1:8) ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.

VIII. Upcoming: Element 6W: More Element 6: Receiving Jesus: Election, Foreknowledge, Predestination, Etc.



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