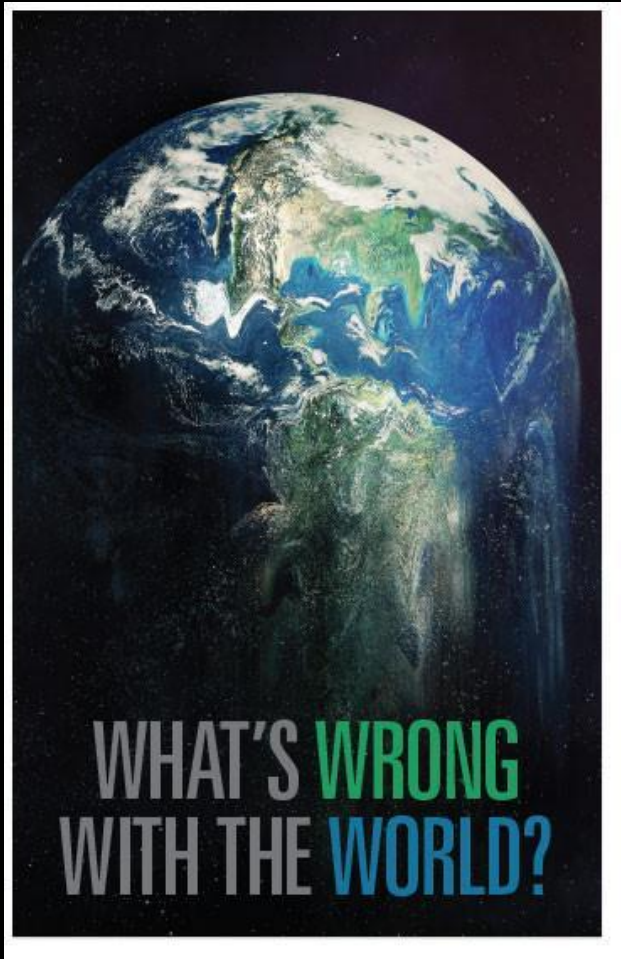




THE LETTER TO THE ROMANS

Salvation by Grace Through Faith

WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE WORLD?

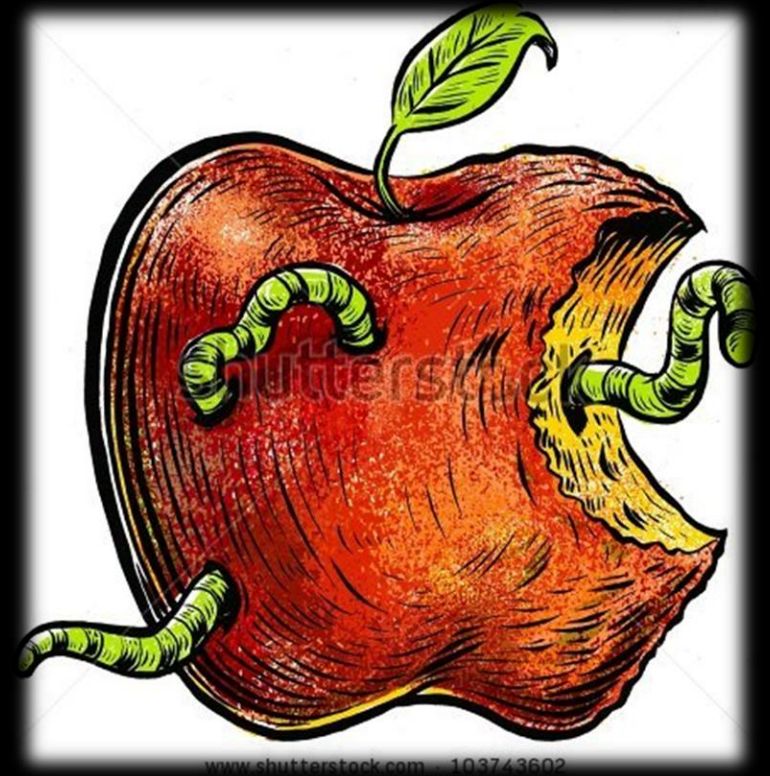


THE SIN PROBLEM

Romans 1:18

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all **ungodliness and unrighteousness** of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

Sin has a rotting effect on life and God disapproves it!



WITHOUT EXCUSE

Romans 1:19-20

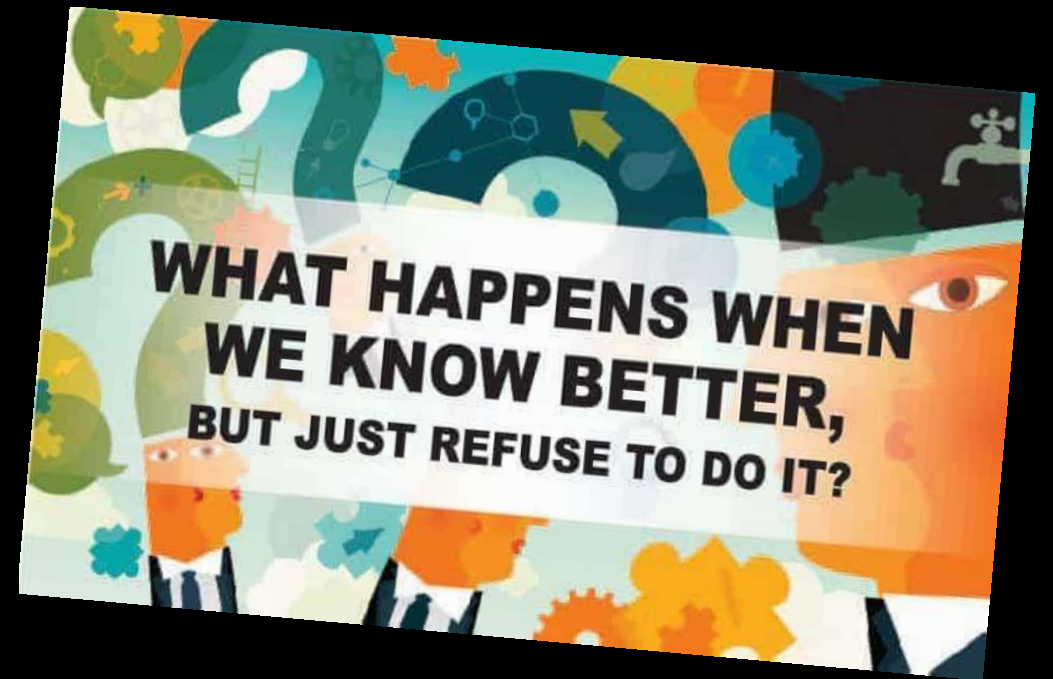
19 For what can be known about **God is plain** to them, because God has shown it to them. **20** For his invisible attributes, namely, his **eternal power** and **divine nature**, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, **in the things that have been made.** So they are without excuse.



WE KNOW BETTER

God holds us accountable for what we know, not what we don't.

Creation gives us enough information about the Creator to bring us to our knees. (That is why all cultures throughout history have had religion—an attempt to explain and please God.)

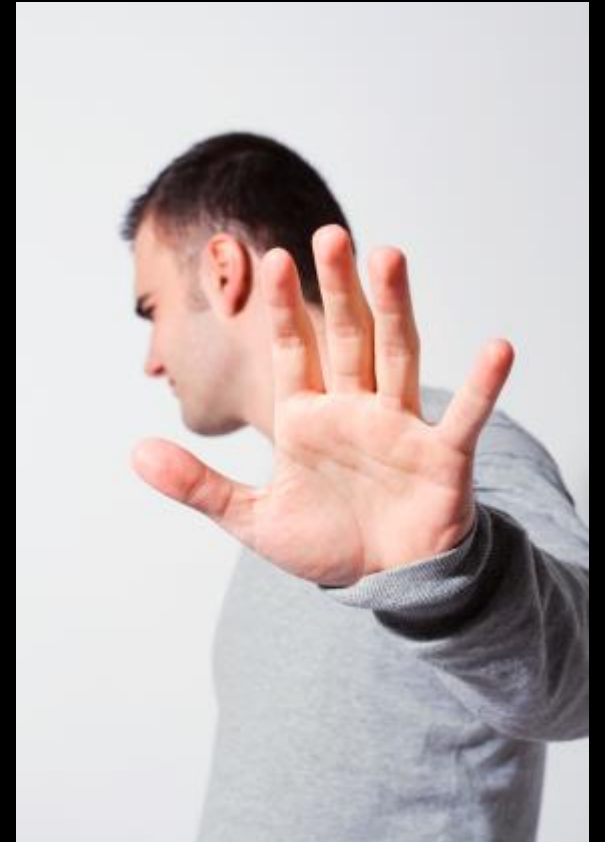


SUPPRESSION OF TRUTH

Romans 1:21-23

²¹ For although **they knew God**, they **did not honor him** as God or **give thanks to him**, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and **exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images** resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.



FREE WILL... FREE FALL!

Romans 1:24-28

²⁴ Therefore **God gave them up** in the lusts of their hearts to impurity... ²⁵ ...and [we] worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator

²⁶ For this reason **God gave them up** to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; ²⁷ and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another.

²⁸ And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, **God gave them up** to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.

KNOWING THE LAW IS NOT ENOUGH!

Romans 2:1, 17, 21-22

¹ Therefore **you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges.** For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because **you, the judge, practice the very same things...** ¹⁷ But if you call yourself a Jew and rely on the law and boast in God...²¹ you then who teach others, do you not teach yourself? While you preach against stealing, do you steal? ²² You who say that one must not commit adultery, do you commit adultery?



NOT KNOWING THE LAW IS NO EXCUSE!

Romans 2:12-16

¹² For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law... ¹⁴ For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. ¹⁵ They show that **the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness**, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them ¹⁶ on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

GUILTY AS CHARGED

Romans 3:9b, 19-20

For we have already charged that **all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin,**¹⁰ as it is written: “**None is righteous, no, not one...**”¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.²⁰ For **by works of the law no human being will be justified** in his sight, since **through the law comes knowledge of sin.**

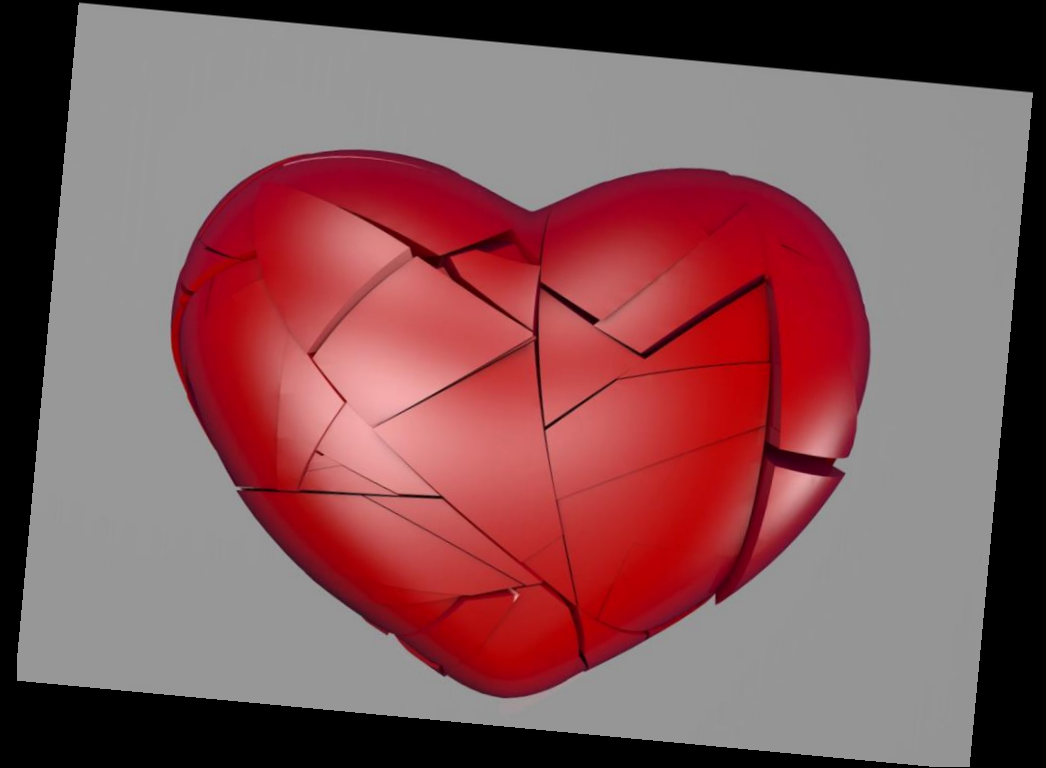


HUMAN DEPRAVITY

“The depravity of man is at once the most empirically verifiable reality but at the same time the most intellectually resisted fact.”

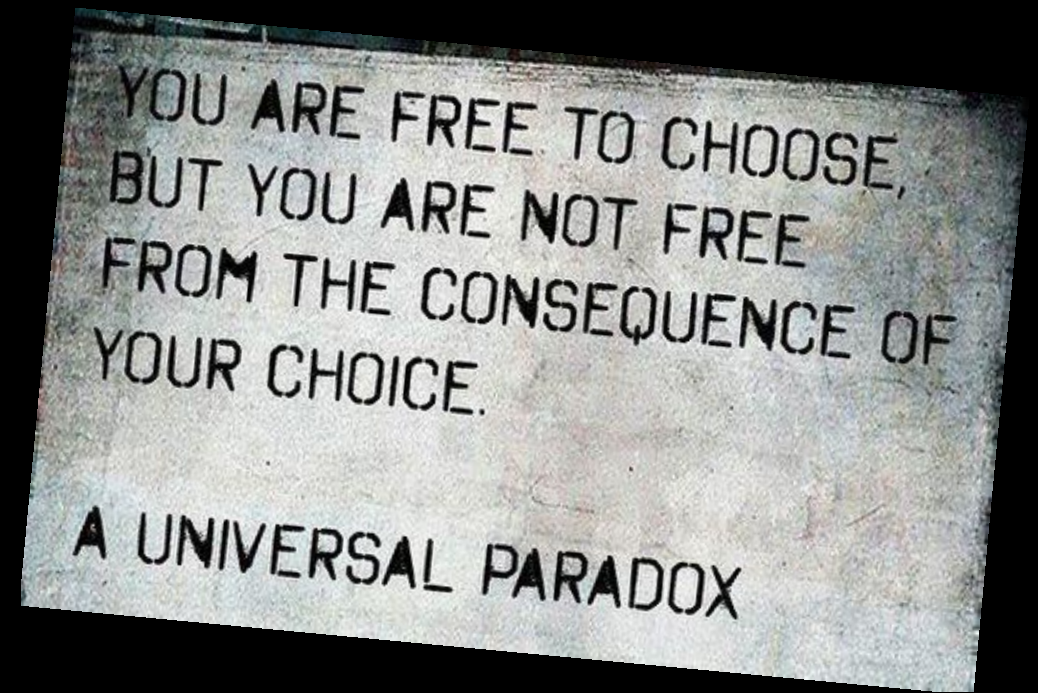
— **Malcolm Muggeridge**

We struggle to accept that we, humans, are tainted by sin and in desperate need salvation!



A UNIVERSAL PROBLEM

Jews and Greeks...
Black and White...
Rich and Poor...
Women and Men...
Young and Old...
Religious and Atheist...
Educated and Uneducated...
Republicans and Democrats...
All persons are corrupted by sin.

A photograph of a piece of paper, possibly a note or a sign, with a paradoxical statement written on it. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font. The paper is slightly tilted and has a textured, aged appearance. The background behind the paper is dark and blurry.

YOU ARE FREE TO CHOOSE,
BUT YOU ARE NOT FREE
FROM THE CONSEQUENCE OF
YOUR CHOICE.

A UNIVERSAL PARADOX

THE GOOD NEWS

Romans 1:16

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

A person is walking away from the viewer down a dark, futuristic hallway. The walls and floor are illuminated with a bright blue light that creates a grid-like pattern, suggesting a digital or data environment. The person is silhouetted against the light. Overlaid on the scene is the text "GOT FAITH?" in large, bold, white letters. The word "GOT" is in a smaller font size than "FAITH?". The question mark is also large and prominent.

GOT
FAITH?

JESUS SAVES

What can wash away my sin?

What can make me whole again?

