

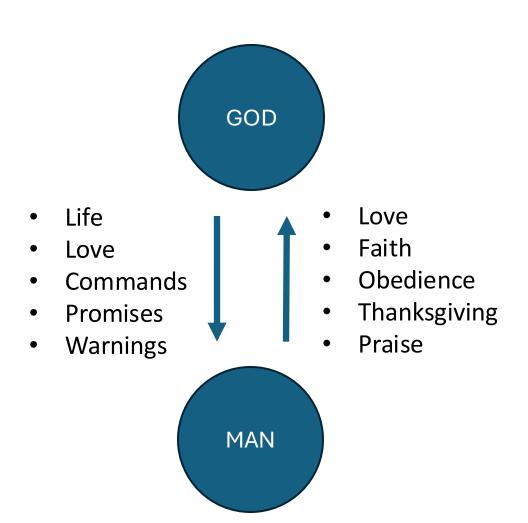
Truth 2: Man is a great sinner.

Genesis 8:21 The intent of man's heart is evil from his youth.

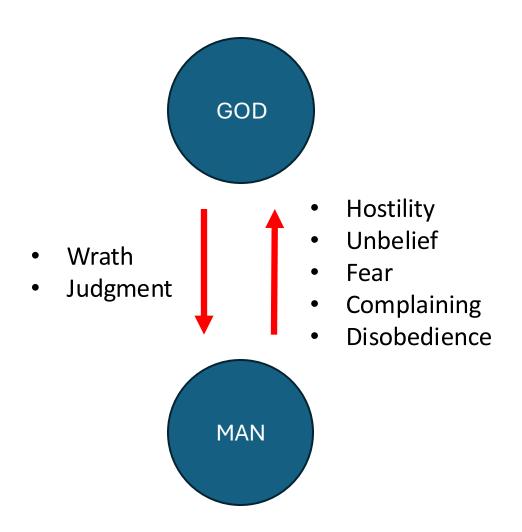
Isaiah 64:6 All our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment.

Romans 3:12 There is none who does good. There is not even one.

Original Design



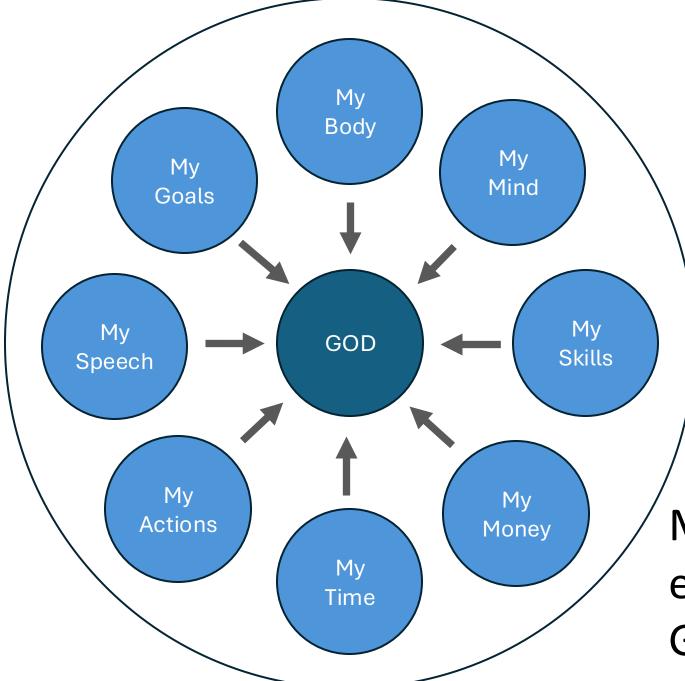
Man in Sin



Understanding Sin

- Basic Idea: to miss the mark, to fall short, to fail.
- 1 John 3:4 Sin is lawlessness.
- WCF: Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God.
- Expanded Definition: Sin is disobedience to God's law, the failure to love God, the refusal to order one's life according to God, self-determination, self-enthronement, self-worship.

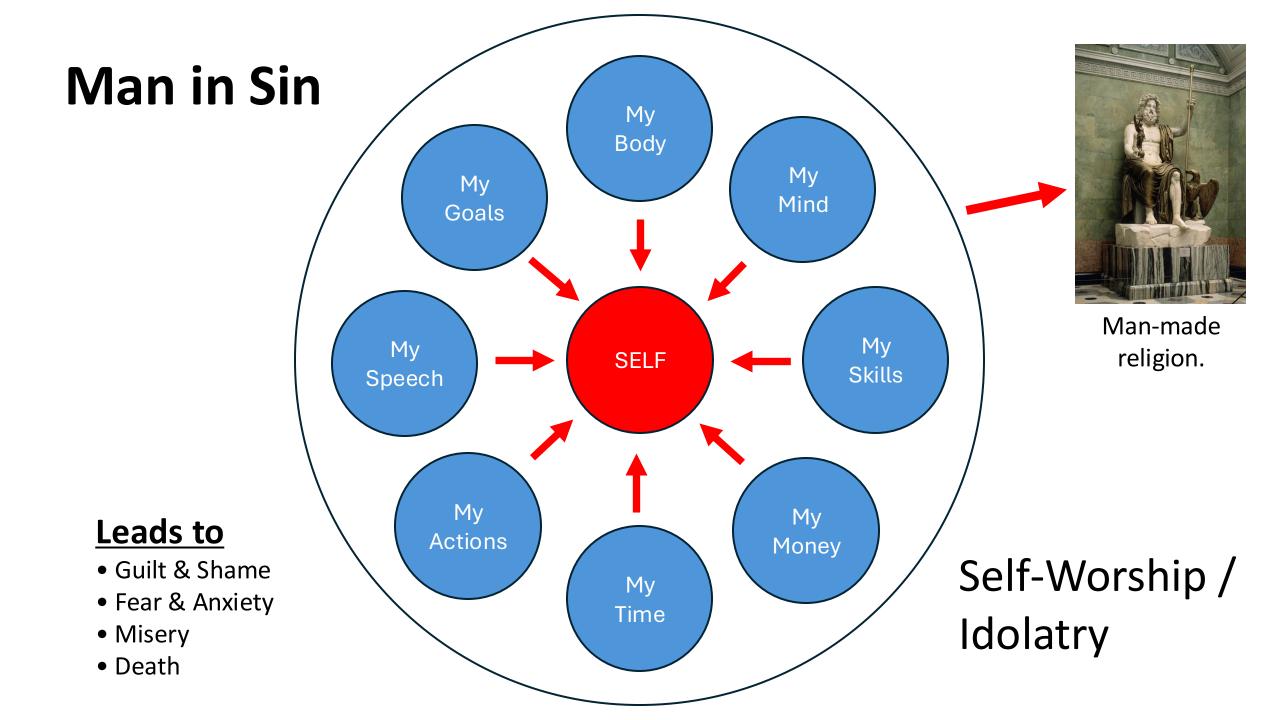
Original Design



Leads to

- Peace
- Joy
- Eternal Life

Man's chief end is to glorify God.



The First Sinners

- Satan Created good but became proud, rebelled against God, and enticed the first humans to sin.
- Adam Created good but believed the lie of Satan, became proud, and rebelled against God.
- Major Themes: <u>Unbelief</u>, <u>Pride</u>, <u>Autonomy</u>, <u>Hatred</u>.

Original Sin

- Key Passage: Romans 5:12–19
- The guilt of Adam's sin is imputed to all his descendants.
- Adam's moral corruption is transmitted to all his descendants.
- Why? Because Adam was the <u>legal representative</u> of humanity in the same way that Christ is the legal representative of the <u>elect</u>.
- The Result: Everyone is born guilty, sinful, and in need of grace.

Original Sin: Additional Evidence

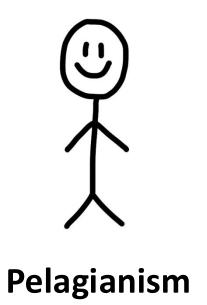
- 1 Cor 15:22 in Adam all die
- Eph 2:3 ...among whom we all also formerly conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, doing the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were **by nature** (i.e., from birth) **children of wrath**, even as the rest.
- Psa 51:5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
 And in sin my mother conceived me.

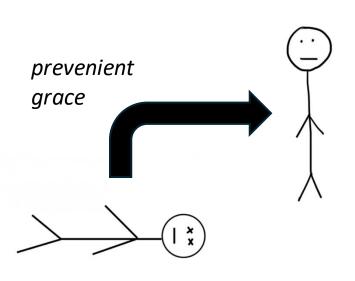
Total Depravity

- Key Passages: Gen 6:5; 8:21.
- Man is spiritually dead and unable to please God or respond to the gospel apart from a miraculous and spiritual rebirth.
- Every part of man is affected by the fall—mind, affections, will.
- Man is morally unable to obey the gospel (Rom 8:7; 1 Cor 2:14).
- "You must be born again." —Jesus in John 3

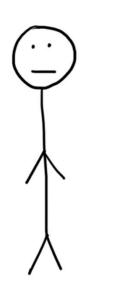


- Pelagianism: man is good and able to earn eternal life.
- Semi-Pelagianism: man is somewhat depraved but still good enough to at least respond to the gospel.
- Arminianism: similar to Semi-Pelagianism but claims God gives man "prevenient grace" that restores his free will.

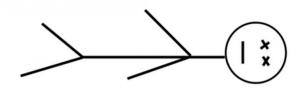




Arminianism



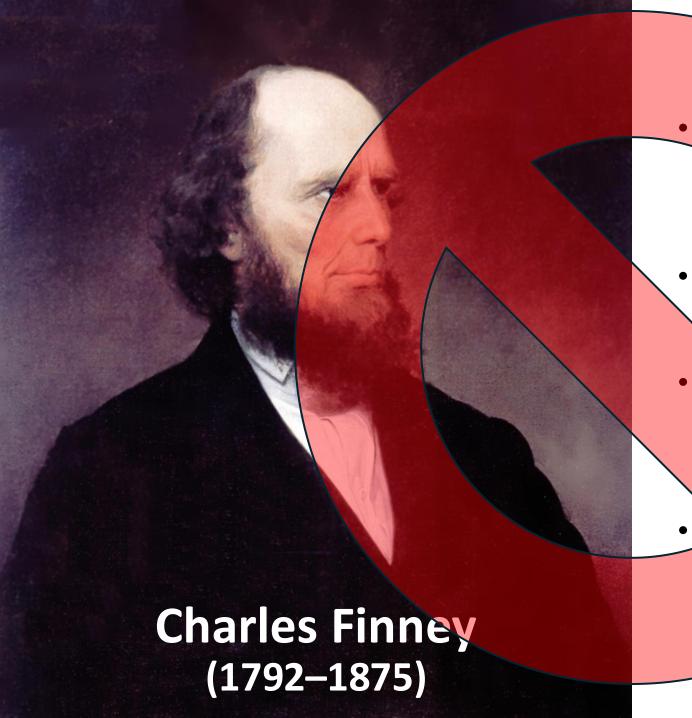
Semi-Pelagianism



The Biblical View (Augustinianism, Calvinism)



- Unbiblical evangelism is the fruit of unbiblical anthropology.
- Many evangelists have a high view of man's moral ability and so try to connect the gospel to his "felt needs."
- What do unbelievers want?
- What is wrong with this approach?



- Believed that anyone could be persuaded to give their life to Christ with the right technique.
- Held revival meetings for multiple days in a row.
- Used "the anxious bench" to manipulate people into becoming Christians.
- Pioneer of the modern altar call: "with every head bowed and every eye closed..."

Truths to Remember

- You are dealing with a spiritually dead heart in need of rebirth.
- The unbeliever will evade responsibility at all costs.
- The biblical gospel will always sound foolish to the unbeliever.
- The unbeliever still has a conscience.
- You must pray for the Holy Spirit to bring about the miracle of the new birth in the unbeliever's heart (Rom 10:1).