James #47

Human good is often misunderstood.

Please keep Texas (Kerr county) in prayer as the flood that recently occurred was incredibly devastating. I didn’t realize until after I got home and watched some footage on Sunday afternoon just how bad it was.

Open up today in Ephesians chapter 4 RF.

As we close this series out on the OSN let me make some important points in relation to human good.

/Human good is drawn from a position of strength in the flesh. It is often something we are comfortable with and easily can display because it is a talent, strength or currency we have developed or been born with. The currency may be monetary or it can be from our I.Q., or our personal life experiences, family ties, as well as concepts or talents we have been trained in. It is also anything we attempt in the flesh to impress or gain access into spirituality and or Godly approval.\

Religion is a form of human good; it is often ritualistic and external in nature.

Human good is described in Isaiah 64:6;

/Isa 64:6 **For all of us have become like one who is unclean**, And all our **righteous deeds are like a filthy garment** (*ʿidâ beḡeḏ*); And all of us wither like a leaf, And our wrongdoings, like the wind, take us away.

Meaning a type of garment used for a female menstruation issue. It is very graphic, because this is how GOD looks upon anything you do in the flesh from your own power, which you believe is righteous or holy.\

ID-AH BEG-ED, this was considered one of the worse garments or cloths after it was used. It was usually burnt.

Then you had to ceremonially wash yourself to be considered clean.

That is how God views human good.

[/Isa 64:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/64/7/s_743007) **There is no one who calls on Your name**, Who stirs himself to take hold of You;For **You have hidden Your face from us** And have surrendered us to the power of our wrongdoings.

When we refuse to acknowledge the justice system of God this is the result.\

Anything done in the flesh can never be considered spiritual, no matter how kind or generous it may be.

Human Good and evil are born in sin. And God will not acknowledge or fellowship with any of that.

/Rom 8:8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Human good is seen in charity, worship, religion as well as giving and serving in the flesh. Outside of the spiritual power of God the HS and motivated by BD, you are in the flesh.\

This is a very deceptive issue for most Christians to fully grasp, until they grow in the knowledge of accurate doctrine.

Just as in salvation, after salvation, we must operate inside the grace plan of GOD.

Operating within the very mind of Christ and the nature of Christ.

 REPEAT

/Titus 3:5 **He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we did in righteousness**, but in accordance with His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,

 (Eph 2:8-9) \

In fact, look at Eph 2 starting in verse three.

The Apostle Paul is teaching the fact that it is only through TLJC that we find our life and eternal security.

Prior to our salvation we were enemies of the Cross of Jesus Christ;

/Eph 2:3 Among them **we too all previously lived in the lusts of our flesh**, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by **nature children of wrath, just as the rest**.

The true humility sinks in when we realize we were all sinners saved by the grace and mercy of GOD’s plan. Saved because Christ loved us no matter how wicked we were, in many cases we still are.\

Eph 2:4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,

[Eph 2:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/2/5/s_1099005) even when we were dead in our wrongdoings, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

/[Eph 2:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/2/6/s_1099006) and **raised us up with Him**, and seated us with Him in the heavenly *places* **in Christ Jesus,**

No other dispensation is mentioned as seated in royalty so often as the Church age.\

Your OSN has never stopped Christ from loving you and welcoming you into an intimate union with HIM.

We are always just one positive decision away from coming back into the plan of GOD, never forget that.

You are a new creature in Christ…

2Cor 5:17 and Eph 4:22-24, Gal 3:26-28 clearly speak to this fact.

/[Eph 2:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/2/7/s_1099007) so that **in the ages to come** He might show the boundless riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Meaning you are currently in the CA and will be taken up in the Rapture to return with HIM in glory for the 2nd Advent.\

The final destination to display HIS abundant glory and kindness will be as winner Bels in heaven.

In fact, at the Bema seat Judgment of Christ we will display HIS abundant mercy, grace and power.

Winner Bels will throw their crowns at the feet of our LORD, because it was all in HIS power and His work that we achieved anything.

You glorify GOD by growing into maturity to receive all crowns, blessings and rewards.

/1Cor 3:11 For no one can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, **which is Jesus Christ**. 12 Now if anyone **builds on the foundation** with **gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, *or* straw,**

This is speaking directly to Human Good verses Divine Good. Every day we have an opportunity to build on a spiritual foundation through our union with Christ.\

There are so many verses in the NT teaching us about winners & losers in the heavenly realm.

The bottom line is - it all comes down to Human Good or Divine Good.

Christ is the foundation because we are in union with HIM, everything is Christ dependent.

 REPEAT

/[1Co 3:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/3/13/s_1065013) **each one’s work will become evident; for the day will show it** because it is *to be* revealed with fire, and the fire itself **will test the quality of each one’s work**.

God is never interested in deeds of the flesh, HE cannot fellowship, nor accept anything from the flesh. THIS WORK has to be divine (filling power of HS /Word).\

The majority of Christianity today looks for emotions and rituals to fulfill good deeds and it is all done by wrong motivation and in the flesh.

/[1Co 3:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/3/14/s_1065014) If anyone’s work which he has built on it remains, **he will receive a reward.** 15If anyone’s work is burned up, **he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved**, yet *only* so as through fire.

This is all dependent upon the New Nature stepping outward in time and applying BD in the SPIRIT. It can be as simple as giving, serving, charity or worship.\

The problem for most Christians who do not understand this, or kick against the truth of winners and losers in the heavenly realm is exactly because they do not grasp the concept of strength and weakness within the OSN.

Specifically, strength in the area of human good.

/Ecc 12:14 For **God will bring every act to judgment,** everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.

Nothing is hidden from HIS sight, human good or divine good, only one is qualified through the justice system of God.\

Understand the basic concepts of human good verses divine good.

/Human Good is from our flesh, even if it feels good or looks good according to mankind. Unbels can quit bad habits, they can be very compassionate and charitable, they can appear very moral or honest, yet they can never be spiritual. Only a Christian applying the spiritual power of the HS (new nature), and motivated by accurate BD can produce Divine Good.\

This means all Christians must understand their own areas of weakness and strength.

This also means there is no true spiritualty or divine good in your life unless you are walking habitually in the two power options.

/Satan wanted to prove he was good enough, strong enough and powerful enough to usurp authority over GOD by becoming a god himself. His own intellect, his own powers and authority were of the highest order out of all angels, yet he was created by GOD. He was given all his power and intellect by God. It is very similar within mankind operating from strength of their flesh.\

As we wrap this up today, let us finish with these important principles on how the OSN tempts us and puts pressure on us.

One way we just noted is by areas of strength in our flesh. The areas of weakness are we see our lust patterns take control.

/Rom 7:7 What shall we say then? Is the Law sin? Far from it! On the contrary**, I would not have come to know sin except through the Law;** for I would not have known about coveting if the Law had not said, “**YOU SHALL NOT COVET**.” 8 **But sin, taking an opportunity** through the commandment, **produced in me coveting of every kind;** for apart from the Law sin *is* dead.

The Apostle Paul had a weak area of coveting and it tripped him up often.\

Many Biblical scholars believe the Apostle Paul also had issues with arrogance in relation to his own high intellect. (2Cor 12:7) He had a messenger from Satan that continually buffeted him because of this weak area.

Approbation lust is the basic weak area most people struggle with in one aspect or another.

/The basic motivator of life is often rooted in people seeking to get attention from others. Attention (approbation lust) seeking for our own attractiveness, intellect or talent is a strong motivator. This also connects to forms of lust in the realm of power, greater authority, materialism lust, sexual lust, popularity lust, greed… etc. \

Finally, the old sin nature has hostile trends against the things of God —

/Every one of us also has a set of trends within the OSN that can lead toward lasciviousness, or a trend toward asceticism. One is as bad as the other, both are evil. Asceticism was seen clearly within the Sanhedrin, the religious crowd. They impose strict rules and rituals upon themselves and then upon others. While lascivious trends lead us into a very careless lifestyle that often uses rebound as a license to sin.\

Let me close with the common biblical terminology for the old sin nature.

The flesh (OSN) —

/Gal 5:16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out **the desire of the flesh.**  (Eph 2:3)

The flesh is a very common title for the Old Sin Nature. The FLESH or SIN used singularly, often is used to point to the whole of our OSN.\

The Old man, or old self —

/Eph 4:22 that, in reference to your former way of life, you are to **rid yourselves of the old self,** which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, 23 and that you are to be **renewed in the spirit of your minds**,\

Our OSN is not slowly getting better over time. In fact, the more we age the more it will grow unsettled and arrogant if it is not under the yoke of the power of BD and the Holy Spirit.

This is why we are told to continually renew our mind in the WORD, filled by the HS.

[/Eph 4:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/4/24/s_1101024) and to **put on the new self**, which in *the likeness of* God has been created in **righteousness and holiness of the truth.** (Col 3:9)

Notice the call is being in the SPIRIT, put on the new nature (righteousness if Christ), in the TRUTH (BD).\

Carnal or carnality is defined in several different ways —

/Rom 7:14 For we know that the Law is spiritual, but **I am fleshly**, sold into bondage to sin. (1Cor 3:1-3)

Carnality is seen when a Bel remains a spiritual babe and refuses to grow, or they backslide and walk in a fleshly manner.\

/Sin (in the singular) is often a reference to the whole of the OSN — Rom 5:12, Rom 7:14; 1John 1:8.

1Cor 15:56 **The sting of death is sin,** and **the power of sin** is the Law;\

There are also some uses of the term HEART - in reference to our soul structure and how it may be influenced by the OSN.

/Heart, generally used for the right lobe, occasionally for the old sin nature’s influence on the right lobe —

Jer 17:9 “**The heart is more deceitful** than all else And is desperately sick; Who can understand it? 10 “I, the LORD, **search the heart**, I test the mind, To give to each person according to his ways, According to the results of his deeds. (Mat 12:34-35, Mar 7:21-23) \

Always remember, the old sin nature frustrates production of true spirituality and divine good. We have to keep short accounts under the power of the Adamic Nature.

The OSN is nailed to the cross so the resurrection body of the Believer is minus that nature —

Phl 3:20 For **our citizenship is in heaven**, from which we also eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; 21 who will **transform the body of our lowly condition into conformity with His glorious body,** by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

(Col 3:4, 1Cor 15:42, 1Thes 5:23) \

Divine judgement solves the problem of the old sin nature.