

GOD'S
GOOD
NEWS

SOMETIMES I LIE AWAKE AT NIGHT,
AND I ASK, "WHERE HAVE I GONE WRONG?"
THEN A VOICE SAYS TO ME, "THIS IS GOING
TO TAKE MORE THAN ONE NIGHT."



What's gone wrong with the world?

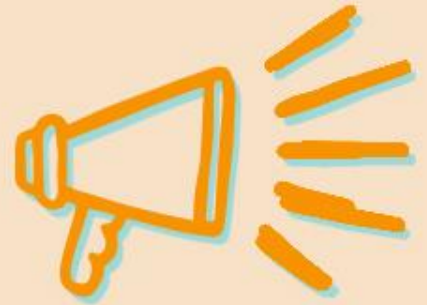
- Rousseau: *Society*
- Marx: *Economics*
- Freud: *Childhood Trauma*
- Dawkins: *Genes*

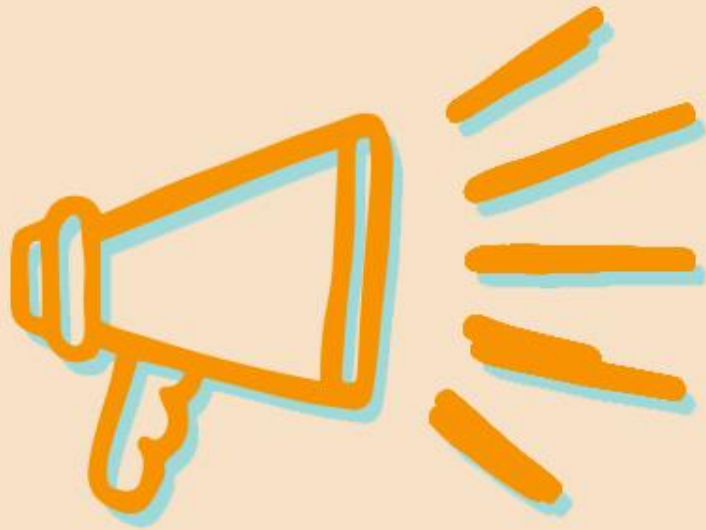
- Paul: *Sin*



‘Without a concept of sin, we human beings remain entirely incomprehensible to ourselves.’

Blaise Pascal





GOD'S GOOD NEWS

The Impartiality of the Good News
Romans 3:1-20

The Impartiality of the Good News

1. The Faithfulness of God

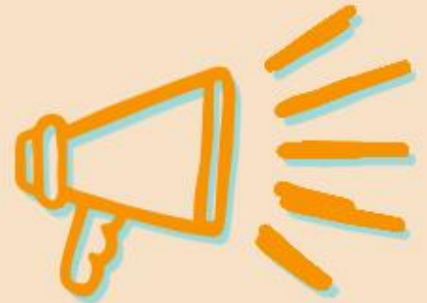


***'He is the Rock, his works are perfect,
and all his ways are just. A faithful God
who does no wrong, upright and just is
he.'***

Deuteronomy 32:4

***'Your love, LORD, reaches to the
heavens, your faithfulness to the skies.'***

Psalm 36:5



‘What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew, or what value is there in circumcision? Much in every way! First of all, the Jews have been entrusted with the very words of God’
Romans 3:1-2.



The Impartiality of the Good News

1. The Faithfulness of God

- **God is Faithful in His Gifts**



‘..all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you.’

Genesis 12:3

‘May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us - so that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.’

Psalm 67:1-2



‘You who boast in the law, do you dishonour God by breaking the law? As it is written: “God’s name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.”’

Romans 2:23-24



The Impartiality of the Good News

1. The Faithfulness of God

- God is Faithful in His Gifts
- **God is Faithful in His Warnings**



‘What if some were unfaithful? Will their unfaithfulness nullify God’s faithfulness? Not at all! Let God be true, and every human being a liar. As it is written: “So that you may be proved right when you speak and prevail when you judge.” ‘

Romans 3:3-4



‘There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile; but glory, honour and peace for everyone who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.’

Romans 2:9-10



‘For it is time for judgment to begin with God’s household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And, “If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”’

1 Peter 4: 17-18



The Impartiality of the Good News

1. The Faithfulness of God
- 2. The Sinfulness of People**



‘Someone might argue, “If my falsehood enhances God’s truthfulness and so increases his glory, why am I still condemned as a sinner?”’

Romans 3:7

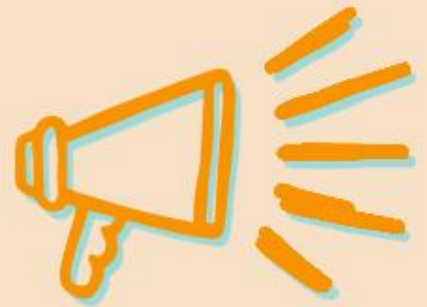


‘Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.’

Psalm 51:5

‘The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?’

Jeremiah 17:9



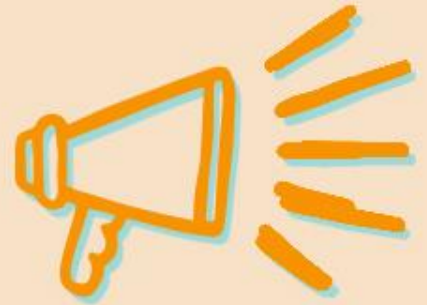
The Impartiality of the Good News

1. The Faithfulness of God
2. **The Sinfulness of People**
 - **Sin is both Religious and Irreligious**



‘What shall we conclude then? Do we have any advantage? Not at all! For we have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under the power of sin. As it is written: “There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God.”’

Romans 3:9-11



‘Irreligion is avoiding God as Lord and Saviour by ignoring him all together. “Religion,” or moralism, is avoiding God as Lord and Saviour by developing a moral righteousness and then presenting it to God in an effort to show that he “owes” you. You can reject God by rejecting his law and living any way you see fit. And you can also reject God by embracing and obeying God’s law so as to earn your salvation.’

Timothy Keller



The Impartiality of the Good News

1. The Faithfulness of God
2. **The Sinfulness of People**
 - Sin is both Religious and Irreligious
 - **Sin is Universal**



‘What shall we conclude then? Do we have any advantage? Not at all! For we have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under the power of sin. As it is written: “There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.”’

Romans 3:9-12



The Impartiality of the Good News

1. The Faithfulness of God
2. **The Sinfulness of People**
 - Sin is both Religious and Irreligious
 - Sin is Universal
 - **Sin is Total**



“Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit.” “The poison of vipers is on their lips.” “Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.”

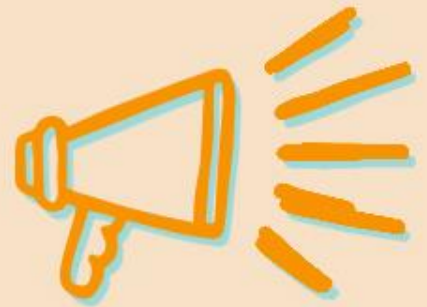
“Their feet are swift to shed blood; ruin and misery mark their ways, and the way of peace they do not know.”

Romans 3:13-17



‘The LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time.’

Genesis 6:5



Old Testament Descriptions of Sin:

- **unclean, and filthy**
- **decay and corruption**
- **missing the mark**
- **rebellion and disloyalty**

Leading to...

- **Alienation**
- **Disruption**
- **Separation**
- **Problems**



‘Sin affects every one of us, every part of us, and every stage of our lives, from birth to death.’



The Impartiality of the Good News

1. The Faithfulness of God
- 2. The Sinfulness of People**
 - Sin is both Religious and Irreligious
 - Sin is Universal
 - Sin is Total
 - **Sin is seen in Words**



“Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit.” “The poison of vipers is on their lips.” Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.”

Romans 3:13-14



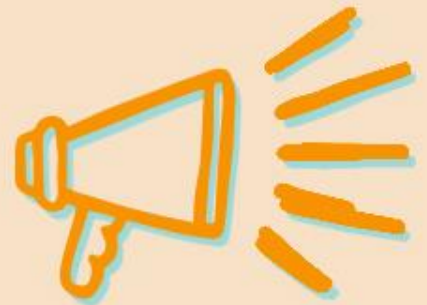
‘The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.’

Proverbs 18:21



The Impartiality of the Good News

1. The Faithfulness of God
2. **The Sinfulness of People**
 - Sin is both Religious and Irreligious
 - Sin is Universal
 - Sin is Total
 - Sin is seen in Words
 - **Sin is seen in Violence**



“Their feet are swift to shed blood; ruin and misery mark their ways, and the way of peace they do not know.” “There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

Romans 3:15-18



‘Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God’s sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.’

Romans 3:19-20



In the recognition of our sinfulness, the seeds of hope are sown.



