

# **The Gravity of Sin & Necessity of the Law**

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Pilgrim Lutheran Church • Kilgore, Texas

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## **Invocation & Prayer**

### **Review**

- a. Justification: *2 Corinthians 5:21*
- b. Reconciliation: *Colossians 1:19-20*
- c. Propitiation: *1 John 4:10*
- D, Regeneration: *2 Corinthians 5:17*

### **The Creation of Humankind**

*Genesis 1:25-31*

- a. What does it mean for humankind to bear God's image?  
*Colossians 3:9b-10; Ephesians 4:24*
- b. What are the two responsibilities that God gave to Adam?
- c. What was God's evaluation of creation before Adam was created?  
What was it after Adam was created?
- d. What was the basis of this evaluation?

### **The Fall of Humankind**

*Genesis 3:1-10*

- a. How did Satan tempt Eve?
- b. Where was Adam when Eve ate the fruit (3:6)?

### **The Effects of Sinful Rebellion**

Consider our relationship with God:

*Isaiah 59:2*

- a. How has sin, resulting from the Fall, effected man's relationship with God? has separated man from God.
- b. Consider some characteristics of sinfulness:

*1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 2:1-3*

List some characteristics of sinfulness:

*St. John 8:44; Ephesians 2:2; 1 John 3:8*

- c. Fallen humankind is dominated by whom?

*St. John 8:34; Romans 6:12-17*

- d. Fallen humankind is a slave of \_\_\_\_\_.

*St. Matthew 25:41-46; 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10; Revelation 14:9-11; Revelation 20:11-15*

- e. What is Fallen humankind's final outcome?
- f. What effects of the Fall were evident in the recent news?

*Romans 3:19-28; Titus 3:4-7*

## **Sin Is Destructive**

St. Augustine & Luther defined sin as "*incurvatus in se*" (turned inward on oneself); highlighting the self-centered nature of sin and the tendency to seek fulfillment apart from God.

## **Reasons For Obedience**

### **1. Christ's Love**

*St. John 14:15, 21; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; 1 John 4:16-19*

## **2. The Father's Discipline**

*Hebrews 12:5-11*

## **3. His Commands for Us Are Good**

*Deuteronomy 6:24; St. John 10:10*

## **4. Temporal & Eternal Rewards**

*2 Corinthians 5:10; 1 Corinthians 3:8, 12-15;*

*St. Matthew 5:12; St. Luke 6:23, 35*

*Galatians 5:4*

Yet, we must trust only in the grace of God by which believers (the regenerate) are endowed with spiritual blessings:

*Ephesians 1:3-7*

## **5. Christ Is Worthy**

*Revelation 4:1-4,9-11; Psalm 73:25,28*

## **Conclusion**

*Ephesians 2:1-3; Colossians 2:13-15*

The Law SOS (Shows Our Sin) as a Curb, Mirror, and Rule

The Gospel SOS (Shows Our Savior) as the Substitutionary Atoning Sacrifice (propitiation) providing Justification, Reconciliation and Regeneration through the forgiveness of sins.

## **Exercise: Law/Gospel Distinctions**

## **Prayer & Benediction**

## Exercise

### Law/Gospel Distinctions

Read each set of readings below and determine whether they are Law or Gospel (or which parts are Law and Gospel).

1. Genesis 50:15-26; St. Matthew 1:1-17

2. Exodus 20:1-11; St. Mark 1:1-8

3. Joshua 6; St. Matthew 5:33-48

4. Psalm 136; St. John 3:11-21

5. Isaiah 40:1-8; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

6. Genesis 6:8-22; 1 John 3:1-12

7. Ezekiel 6:1-10; Ephesians 4:1-6