

Romans 1- Depravity

The world will tell you, “You are a good person. You have a good heart. You are very nice. You are a morally upstanding kid.” Is this true? Are you a “good” person? Is that what the bible says?

Romans 1 explains the condition of the human heart without God. Romans 1: 28-32 reads, “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. They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.”

Do these qualities sound like qualities of a “good person” or someone with a “good heart?”

All of us have a Master. If your master is not Jesus, sin is your master. It rules over you like a King to his people. It tells you what to do and you obey it. It controls your heart.

Without God, humans are sick, depraved, dark, and evil. Your heart will constantly desire to oppose God and live for yourself. You will choose to sin every time. You will love your sin more than you love God. This is the condition of the human heart. Without God, you are not a good person. You do not have a good heart.

But God can change everything. He can give you a completely new heart. Ezekiel 36:26 reads, “And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.” This season we will explore how God can remove your heart of stone and give you a new heart.

Questions to Consider:

- 1. What does culture tell you about your heart (Disney movies, books, etc.)?**
- 2. What does Romans 1 say about the condition of your heart?**
- 3. Without God, what does the human heart look like?**