

GraceLife Church Presents . . .

Soteriology

The Purpose,
Accomplishment, Plan, and
Application of Redemption

Hamartiology: The Doctrine of Sin

Hamartiology

Introduction

- ❖ We want to look at sin to shine the light on the work of the Holy Spirit in salvation.
- ❖ Last week we began our discussion of the doctrine of sin.
 - ❖ We defined sin, saw its origin in the garden of Eden, its transmission through Adam to his descendants, and that it brought guilt and pollution to us all.

Hamartiology

Definition of Sin

“Sin is any failure to conform to the moral law of God in act, attitude, or nature.”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 210.

Hamartiology

Definition of Sin

“The definition of sin given above specifies that sin is a failure to conform to God’s moral law not only in *action* and in *attitude*, but also in our *moral nature*. Our very nature, the internal character that is the essence of who we are as persons, can also be sinful.”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 210.

Hamartiology

The Origin of Sin

- ❖ Sin entered the world through our first parent and representative—Adam.
- ❖ Adam and Even were created good, but they had the ability to disobey God's command to not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
- ❖ They were innocent but they were not righteous.
- ❖ They had the ability to sin as well as the ability not to sin.

Hamartiology

The Transmission of Sin

- ❖ Adam's sin was transmitted to his descendants.
- ❖ There is a connection between Adam's sin and the sin of all who came after him.
- ❖ Adam was the head of our race, every one of us came through him and from him.
- ❖ What he did we did. What happened to him happened to us.

Hamartiology

The Transmission of Sin

- ❖ Beyond simply our physical connection to Adam there is a sense in which Adam represented us in the garden.
- ❖ As our representative, what he did was imputed to us. The guilt and corruption (pollution) of his sin is counted as ours in him.

Hamartiology

The Transmission of Sin

- ❖ This idea of Adam as our representative is not so much explained in Scripture as it is simply assumed.
- ❖ Adam's sin corrupted all. The penalty for sin—death—spread to all.
 - ❖ The why, the how, and the justice (fairness) of this are not necessarily explained.

Hamartiology

The Transmission of Sin

- ❖ When Paul sought to defend the doctrine of imputed righteousness—that in Christ we are counted righteous though ungodly (Rom 4:5)—he turned to the parallel of the imputed guilt and pollution of Adam’s sin.
- ❖ When Adam sinned all became sinners in him (Rom 5:19).
- ❖ His one sin resulted in death to all, condemnation to all, and made who were in him all sinners (Rom 5:12, 18, 19).

Hamartiology

The Transmission of Sin

Rom 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned —

Hamartiology

The Transmission of Sin

Rom 5:15 But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, . . . **16** The gift is not like *that which came* through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment *arose* from one *transgression* resulting in condemnation, . . . **17** For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, . . .

Hamartiology

The Transmission of Sin

Rom 5:18 So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, . . . **19** For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, . . . **20** The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, **21** so that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hamartiology

The Transmission of Sin

- ❖ Paul didn't really explain how this worked in Adam, he just said in effect, it happened in Adam and the same thing (imputation) can happen again through a new representative—Jesus Christ.
- ❖ If Christ is our representative head, then in him we can receive the righteousness, justification, and life that is in him.

Hamartiology

The Transmission of Sin

1 Cor 15:21 For since by a man *came* death, by a man also *came* the resurrection of the dead. **22** For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.

Hamartiology

The Transmission of Sin

- ❖ The question to the fallen human mind (and even perhaps for the curious believer) is how is this fair? How does this fit with the justice of God?
- ❖ We can say a few things.

Hamartiology

The Transmission of Sin

“In the first place, remember, humanity is not an aggregate of individuals but an organic unity, one race, one family. Angels, on the other hand, all stand side-by-side, independently of one another. . . . [Adam] was not a private person, not a loose individual alongside other such loose individuals, but a root-source, the base, the seminal beginning of the whole ”

Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics*, 3:102.

Hamartiology

The Transmission of Sin

- ❖ All people sin and will pay the penalty for their actual sins.
- ❖ You might say, “I sin because in Adam I was made a sinner.” But again, you can’t exist apart from Adam. We are all conceived and are born in and through him.
- ❖ God deals with us as fallen in him. We could go back to Romans 9:20.

Hamartiology

The Transmission of Sin

- ❖ More than this, we should realize that a holy, just God created and chose our representative. There was no better option.
- ❖ He also chose Christ as the representative of the elect. All who are saved are represented by Christ who recovers for us all things that we lost in Adam and more.
 - ❖ If you are happy to have Christ as your representative you lose the right to complain about Adam's representation.

Hamartiology

The Transmission of Sin

“The representative-headship view asserts that the action of a representative is determinative for all members united to him. When Adam sinned, he represented all people; therefore, his sin is reckoned to his descendants.”

John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, *Biblical Doctrine*, 464.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

- ❖ Original sin is the theological term used to explain the fact that we come into this world as sinners in need of salvation.
- ❖ Because of Adam's sin we are born sinners—guilty and polluted.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“By that first sin Adam became the bond-servant of sin.

That sin carried permanent pollution with it, and a pollution which, because of the solidarity of the human race, would affect not only Adam but all his descendants as well. As a result of the fall the father of the race could only pass on a depraved human nature to his offspring.

From that unholy source sin flows on as an impure stream to all the generation of men, polluting everyone and everything with which it comes in contact.”

Louis Berkof, *Systematic Theology*, 221.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“This sin is called ‘original sin,’ (1) because it is derived from the original root of the human race; (2) because it is present in the life of every individual from the time of birth, and therefore cannot be regarded as the result of imitation; and (3) because it is the inward root of all the actual sins that defile the life of man.”

Louis Berkof, *Systematic Theology*, 244.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“Sin and guilt are inseparable (Gal 3:10; Jas 2:10; 1 John 5:17). If sin is lawlessness, it is punishable; and, conversely, where there is guilt and punishment, there has to be sin. Original sin, however, is such that death is its consequence (Rom 5:14), that it makes us unworthy of the fellowship of God and his heaven, that is it is inherently impure, the occasion and source of many sins, and is presumably therefore itself sin. Otherwise God would be unjust for punishing with death, the wages of sin (Rom 6:23), that which *is* no sin and does not deserve death.”

Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics*, 3:92.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“By pollution we understand the inherent corruption to which every sinner is subject. This is a reality in the life of every individual.”

Louis Berkof, *Systematic Theology*, 233.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“This inherited sinful nature is sometimes simply called ‘original sin’ and sometimes more precisely called ‘original pollution.’ I have used instead the term ‘inherited corruption’ because it seems to express more clearly the specific idea in view.”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 214–15.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

- ❖ The sin that we are born into this world with is universal in scope (it affects every person without exception), it pollutes the totality of our beings, and it results in an inability to please God or respond to the gospel.
- ❖ We will look at the universality of sin, total depravity, and total inability.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“While the existence of original sin has met with widespread denial, the presence of actual sin in the life of man is generally admitted.”

Louis Berkof, *Systematic Theology*, 251.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“Certainly, if this doctrine is clearly elucidated, it is daily confirmed by everyone’s experience and vindicated by the witness of its opponents themselves.”

Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics*, 3:120.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

- ❖ Sin is a universal reality that cannot be denied or avoided. It affects every person from the youngest age.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

Eccl 7:20 Indeed, there is not a righteous man on earth who *continually* does good and who never sins.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

1 Kgs 8:46 “When they sin against You (for there is no man who does not sin) and You are angry with them and deliver them to an enemy, so that they take them away captive to the land of the enemy, far off or near;

Hamartiology

Original Sin

- Ps 14:1** The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.”
They are corrupt, they have committed abominable deeds;
There is no one who does good.
- Ps 14:2** The LORD has looked down from heaven upon the sons of men
To see if there are any who understand,
Who seek after God.
- Ps 14:3** They have all turned aside, together they have become corrupt;
There is no one who does good, not even one.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

Ps 53:2 God has looked down from heaven upon the sons of men
To see if there is anyone who understands,
Who seeks after God.

Ps 53:3 Every one of them has turned aside; together they have become corrupt;
There is no one who does good, not even one.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

- Rom 3:10** as it is written,
“THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;
- Rom 3:11** THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS,
THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD;
- Rom 3:12** ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS;
THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD,
THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE.”

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“Notice the universality of depravity is emphasized by the words, ‘all,’ ‘together,’ ‘none,’ and ‘not even one.’”

Matthew Barrett, *Salvation by Grace*, 43.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

- Rom 3:13** “THEIR THROAT IS AN OPEN GRAVE,
WITH THEIR TONGUES THEY KEEP DECEIVING,”
“THE POISON OF ASPS IS UNDER THEIR LIPS”;
- Rom 3:14** “WHOSE MOUTH IS FULL OF CURSING AND BITTERNESS”;
- Rom 3:15** “THEIR FEET ARE SWIFT TO SHED BLOOD,
Rom 3:16 DESTRUCTION AND MISERY ARE IN THEIR PATHS,
Rom 3:17 AND THE PATH OF PEACE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN.”
- Rom 3:18** “THERE IS NO FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES.”

Hamartiology

Original Sin

- ❖ Note the pervasiveness of sin in Romans 3:13–18.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

- Rom 3:13** “THEIR THROAT IS AN OPEN GRAVE,
WITH THEIR TONGUES THEY KEEP DECEIVING,”
“THE POISON OF ASPS IS UNDER THEIR LIPS”;
- Rom 3:14** “WHOSE MOUTH IS FULL OF CURSING AND BITTERNESS”;
- Rom 3:15** “THEIR FEET ARE SWIFT TO SHED BLOOD,
Rom 3:16 DESTRUCTION AND MISERY ARE IN THEIR PATHS,
Rom 3:17 AND THE PATH OF PEACE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN.”
- Rom 3:18** “THERE IS NO FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES.”

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“Sin is total or pervasive in that all components of a person are polluted by sin. . . No part escapes . . . This includes all of man’s thinking, reason, desires, and affections.”

John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, *Biblical Doctrine*, 467.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“It is not just that some parts of us are sinful and others are pure. Rather, *every part of our being* is affected by sin—our intellects, our emotions and desires, our hearts (the center of our desires and decision-making processes), our goals and motives, and even our physical bodies.”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 215.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

Matt 7:11 “If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!

Hamartiology

Original Sin

Gen 6:5 Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Gen 8:21 The LORD smelled the soothing aroma; and the LORD said to Himself, "I will never again curse the ground on account of man, for the intent of man's heart is evil from his youth; and I will never again destroy every living thing, as I have done.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“God could have said man’s heart was corrupt, but instead he says every imagination of the thoughts of the heart was only evil continually, accentuating the intensiveness of depravity.”

Matthew Barrett, *Salvation by Grace*, 42.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

Mark 7:20 And He was saying, “That which proceeds out of the man, that is what defiles the man. **21** “For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, **22** deeds of coveting *and* wickedness, *as well as* deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride *and* foolishness. **23** “All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man.”

Hamartiology

Original Sin

Eph 4:17 So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, **18** being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; **19** and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“In reviewing these two verses a series of causes and effects becomes apparent. . . . The hardness of their hearts towards God caused their ignorance.

Their ignorance concerning God and His will caused them to be alienated from the life of God.

Their alienation caused their minds to be darkened, and their darkened minds caused them to walk in the futility of mind.”

Harold Hoehner, *Ephesians*, 588–89.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“It is important to recognize here the emphasis that many of the passages examined above place on the depravity of *both* the heart and the mind. Theologians have called this the ‘noetic’ effect of the fall. Noetic derives from the Greek νοῦς, which means ‘mind.’

Prior to sins entrance into the world, Adam’s intellectual capabilities were pure, without defilement. However, after the fall man’s mind became distorted and perverse.”

Matthew Barrett, *Salvation by Grace*, 52.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

- ❖ Every part of man is affected by original sin, this is what we mean by *total* in total depravity.
- ❖ Total depravity does not mean that all people are as depraved (sinful) as they could be.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“The teaching of Scripture, after all, is not that every human lives at all times in all possible actual sins and is in fact guilty of violating all God’s commandments. It only refers to the deepest inclination, the innermost disposition, the fundamental directedness of human nature and confesses that it is not turned toward God but away from him.”

Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics*, 3:120.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

- ❖ Also by total depravity we do not mean that man is incapable of doing relatively good things, only that man is corrupted by sin in all that he does.
- ❖ At the heart of all man's so-called righteousness apart from Christ is a sinful unbelieving heart that operates separate from God and for the glory of self rather than the glory of God.
- ❖ Augustine called the righteousness of the Gentiles 'splendid vices.'

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“These same actions and feelings [the good things man is able to do] when considered in relation to God, are radically defective. Their fatal defect is that they are not prompted by love to God, or by any regard for the will of God as requiring them.”

Louis Berkof, *Systematic Theology*, 247.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“Men still do good things for their neighbours, especially in the civil sphere. Total depravity does not seek to deny this. Only, those deeds are not done Godward, but come from the root of depravity and are at base selfish and self centred.

On the other hand, the worst deeds of the unregenerate do not flow from a nature other than that which all mankind shares.”

Mike Hovland, *Soteriology* 17, 51.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“And those who show by their appalling words and deeds that they hate God and their neighbor have no other nature than the one all people share.”

Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics*, 3:121.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“Finally, one must bear in mind that Scripture and the church, in teaching the total depravity of humanity, apply the highest standard, namely, the law of God.”

Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics*, 3:122.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

Rom 1:21 For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. **22** Professing to be wise, they became fools, **23** and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

Rom 1:24 Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. **25** For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“But there is still another, higher, ideal for us humans. There is a diving law with which we must comply. Virtues and good works are distinct. Good, true good—good in the eyes of a holy God—is only what is done out of faith, according to God’s law, and to God’s glory. And measured by this standard, who would dare to say that any work performed by humans is completely pure and does not need forgiveness and renewal?”

Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics*, 3:123.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

- ❖ Man's problem is not only that his mind, heart, desires, and affections are sinful but also that, because of our depravity we are unable to remove ourselves from this dreadful condition.
- ❖ Theologians call this *Total Inability*.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“When we speak of man’s corruption as total inability, we mean two things: (1) that the unrenewed sinner cannot do any act, however insignificant, which *fundamentally* meets with God’s approval and answers to the demands of God’s holy law; and (2) that he cannot change his fundamental preference for sin and self to love for God, not even make an approach to such a change. In a word, he is unable to do any spiritual good.”

Louis Berkof, *Systematic Theology*, 247.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

Eph 2:1 And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, **2** in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. **3** Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“The desires of people who are ‘by nature objects of wrath’ are naturally and instinctively sinful desires. . . .

People do what they want to do, in that they pursue their own pleasures and desires. Nonetheless, to describe this pursuit of their own desires as slavery because they have no desire, inclination, or aspiration to do good is appropriate.”

Thomas Schreiner, “Does Scripture Teach Prevenient Grace in the Wesleyan Sense?” in *Still Sovereign* ed. Thomas Schreiner and Bruce Ware, 230.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“If the grace of our conversion be nothing but a moral persuasion, we have no more power of obeying it in that estate wherein we are dead in sin, than a man in his grave hath in himself to live anew and come out at the next call.”

John Owen, “A Display of Arminianism,” in *The Works of John Owen*, 10:130.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

John 8:34 Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commmits sin is the slave of sin. . . . **36** So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“According to Jesus, man willfully remains in bondage to sin until the Son sets him free (John 8:36).”

Matthew Barrett, *Salvation by Grace*, 56.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

John 8:42 Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and have come from God, for I have not even come on My own initiative, but He sent Me. **43** “Why do you not understand what I am saying? *It is* because you cannot hear My word. **44** “You are of *your* father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *nature*, for he is a liar and the father of lies. **45** “But because I speak the truth, you do not believe Me. **46** “Which one of you convicts Me of sin? If I speak truth, why do you not believe Me? **47** “He who is of God hears the words of God; for this reason you do not hear *them*, because you are not of God.”

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“Jesus is very clear; the reason they do not understand him in a saving way is because they cannot bear to hear his word.”

Matthew Barrett, *Salvation by Grace*, 55.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“In 1 Corinthians 2:14 we see that man cannot obey because he is not spiritual. He is enslaved to his sin, determined by his corrupt nature. Yet, 2 Thessalonians 2:10–12 tells us that he willfully chooses sin, showing that this is what he most wants to do. . . . On the one hand he cannot obey because he is not spiritual, while on the other hand he does not obey because he refuses to love the truth and be saved.”

Matthew Barrett, *Salvation by Grace*, 55.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

1 Cor 2:14 But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

2 Thess 2:9 *that is,* the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, **10** and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. **11** For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false, **12** in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

- ❖ Man cannot accept the things of the Spirit of God *and* man does not repent and believe. Man cannot because man will not.
- ❖ Theologians call this *Total Inability*.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“If we appropriate a freedom of inclination the texts are further reconciled. Remember, freedom of inclination shows that while man’s choices are determined and necessitated by his strongest motive, nevertheless, he chooses that which he most wants and therefore his choice remains free. In light of depravity, man’s strongest motive is toward sin and so his choice is determined and necessitated by his corrupt nature; yet, since sinning is exactly what he most wants to do his choice remains free.”

Matthew Barrett, *Salvation by Grace*, 65.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

Titus 3:3 For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

Ezek 36:26 “Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

John 5:42 but I know you, that you do not have the love of God in yourselves. **43** “I have come in My Father’s name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, you will receive him. **44** “How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and you do not seek the glory that is from the *one and only* God?

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“At the root of man’s depravity is a rejection and hatred for Jesus Christ which reveals the root issue in man’s corruption, namely, a failure to give glory to God.”

Matthew Barrett, *Salvation by Grace*, 45–6.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

Jer 13:23 “Can the Ethiopian change his skin
Or the leopard his spots?
Then you also can do good
Who are accustomed to doing evil.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

- Job 14:1** “Man, who is born of woman,
Is short-lived and full of turmoil.
- Job 14:2** “Like a flower he comes forth and withers.
He also flees like a shadow and does not remain.
- Job 14:3** “You also open Your eyes on him
And bring him into judgment with Yourself.
- Job 14:4** “Who can make the clean out of the unclean?
No one!

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“Because man is totally or pervasively corrupt, he is incapable of changing his character or of acting in a way that is distinct from his corruption. He is unable to discern, to love, or to choose the things that are pleasing to God.”

Robert Reymond, *Systematic Theology*, 248; quoted in Matthew Barrett, *Salvation by Grace*, 54.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

Rom 8:7 because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able *to do so*, 8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

John 3:1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews; **2** this man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You have come from God *as* a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.” **3** Jesus answered and said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

Hamartiology

Original Sin

John 3:4 Nicodemus *said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born, can he?” **5** Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. **6** “That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. **7** “Do not be amazed that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ **8** “The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

Hamartiology

Original Sin

- ❖ *Total Inability* reveals
- ❖ Man is dead in trespasses and sins.
- ❖ Man is enslaved to his desires, a slave to sin.
- ❖ Man is unable to bear or hear God's word.
- ❖ Man is unable to understand God's word.
- ❖ Man is unwilling to receive God's word.
- ❖ Man has a heart of stone.
- ❖ Man cannot change himself from this condition.
- ❖ Man is unable to please God.
- ❖ Man cannot see the things of God unless he is born again.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“Therefore, man’s spiritual state is not one of relative neutrality, in which he is able to accept or reject God and his gospel. He is an active hater of God (Rom 8:7) who cannot accept spiritual truth (1 Cor 2:14). The total depravity of man demonstrates the absolute sovereignty of God in salvation. Man can do nothing. God must accomplish all as a gift of sovereign grace.”

John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, *Biblical Doctrine*, 468.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

“Therefore, as Edwards would argue in *Efficacious Grace*, left to himself man will not and morally cannot choose God until his inclinations are changed by a sovereign act of effectual grace. It is in the sovereign work of regeneration that man’s disposition is changed and his inclinations reoriented. God alone can liberate man from his willful bondage to sin.”

Matthew Barrett, *Salvation by Grace*, 64.

Hamartiology

Original Sin

John 6:37 “All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out.

John 6:44 “No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.

