

THE NATURAL BORN CONDITION

Romans 3:9-20

Introduction:

●War

1. Defined – a conflict that results in at least _____ deaths
2. History – in the last 3400 years the world has known only _____ years of peace
3. Demonstrates that mankind has a serious problem

●Proposed solutions for world peace like governmental reform do not solve the problem

1. This does not mean that government is useless
 - a. All government has been o_____ by God to maintain order in society (Rom 13:1)
 - b. Government can motivate a c_____ in outward behavior but it cannot correct the internal problem
2. The natural born condition is not g_____ but sinful, evil, contrary to God as Rom 3:9-20 makes clear.

●Paul continues to imagine a person making objections (v.9)

1. Truth – Much of Israel did not trust God, but many Gentiles have.
2. Objection – Does this mean that Gentiles are b_____ then Jews?
3. Answer - _____, the entire world, in their natural born condition, is under s_____.

●As believers in Christ, we need to view people as God does, for then and only then will the real problem be addressed.

The Condition of Evil (verses 10-18)

●Paul quotes some Old Testament passages to prove his point - the context of the passages show that Paul is talking **only** about the un_____ world

1. In all the unbelieving world, there is not one who is r_____ (v. 10)
 - a. God declares ALL believers righteous by f_____ (Rom 5:1 – justified means to be declared righteous) – righteousness is LIVING IN a faith relationship with Jesus.
 - b. God has created a new nature within ALL believers so that they work at LIVING OUT that faith relationship with Jesus (Eph 4:24; I Jn 2:29)
 - c. Therefore without Christ, no one is righteous.
2. In all the unbelieving world, there is not one who understands so as to s_____ God (v. 11)
 - a. This is a condition inherited from Adam and Eve
 - 1) Adam and Eve were created as adults and God called them very g_____ (Gen 1:31)
 - 2) Adam and Eve were given a c_____ to live in relationship to God or to sever that relationship
 - 3) Their wrong choice made it so that everyone born into this world are not born as children of God but children of w_____ (Eph 2:3)
 - 4) The Bible fixes the blame for our condition on _____ (Rom 5:12 – not because Adam sinned, but because ALL sinned)
 - b. I Cor 2:14 describes what is missing so as to understand and even accept the things of God – spiritual properties
3. In all the unbelieving world, there is not one who does g_____ (v. 12)
 - a. The picture painted sounds like a terrorist not the unbelievers you might know
 - 1) If you ask a terrorist, they would say it is not a picture of them either – they do all for the glory of Allah
 - 2) This is not what we can see, but is only what _____ sees in every unbeliever (I Sam 16:7)
 - ♦Condition of d_____ (13a)

- ♦Condition of d_____ (13b)
 - ♦Poisonous condition (13c)
 - ♦Cursing and bitterness flowing from the mouth
 - ♦Not on a path of p_____ but of destruction, death and misery (15-17) – see Rom 5:1
 - ♦No reverence for the one true G_____ (18)
- b. No unbeliever can p_____ God (Heb 11:6; Rom 8:8)
- So how can anyone see their need of Jesus in this condition?

The Knowledge of Evil (verses 19,20)

- Comes by the Laws of M_____ (19)
1. In this verse, the word “law” is written t_____
 2. Both times the Greek text has the word “the” before it, which is Paul’s way of referring to the Law that God gave Moses to give to the people of Israel.
 3. Was not the Law of Moses a testimony AGAINST Israel? (see Deut 31:26)
- Comes by laws in g_____ (20)
1. In this verse, the word “law” is written t_____
 2. Both times the Greek text does NOT have “the” word the before it, which is Paul’s way of referring to laws in general.
 - a. Laws of society (Rom 13:3)
 - b. Laws of c_____ (Rom 2:15)
- Realizing one’s sinfulness is not enough to save them from this condition, but it is a necessary step before one can be saved.

Conclusion:

- We need to view ourselves as God does
1. If I am an unbeliever – I must accept that the Creator only knows my true condition
 2. If I am a believer – My changed condition is not my doing but God’s n_____ creation (I Cor 5:17)
- We need to view others as God does
1. We are masters at dealing with s_____ (think of it like medications that relieve the symptoms but do nothing to cure the illness)
 - a. Unbelieving friend – when in trouble, we advise them
 - b. Unbelieving child – when disobedient, we correct them
 - c. Unbelieving family – when wronged, we confront them
 2. We must not neglect advising, correcting, or confronting, but we must work to offer the cure –
C_____