

How We Get in Prisons - Part 4
Christian Prisons - Psalm 8:3-9
05/21/2023

Gal. 3:25-26 (NLT) Let me put it another way. The law was our guardian until Christ came; it protected us until we could be made right with God through faith. And now that the way of faith has come, we no longer need the law as our guardian.

Psalm 8:3-8 (ESV) When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

Two Ways of Looking at People:

Man is basically **GOOD** with a tendency toward evil.

Man is basically **EVIL** with a tendency toward good.

Psalm 14:1b-3 (ESV) They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is none who does good. The Lord looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, Who seek after God; they have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.

Romans 3:10-12 (NIV) "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 7:14-15 (ESV) We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.

How We Get in Prisons:

1st) We don't understand why we're a **MESS**.

Romans 5:14 (ESV) Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

1 Cor. 15:21-22 (ESV) For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

Exodus 20:5-6 (ESV) You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

2nd) We don't understand how **GOOD** we can be.

Romans 7:22-24 (ESV) For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

2 Cor. 5:17 (NIV) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

3rd) We don't understand what Jesus **DID FOR US**.

Luke 4:18 (ESV) "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,

Four Tools the Enemy Uses:

A) **PEOPLE**

B) **TRAUMA**

C) **CULTURE**

Romans 12:2 (ESV) Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

D) **THOUGHTS**

Daniel 7:25 (ESV) He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High,

Pascal: "Not only do we know God through Jesus Christ, but we only know ourselves through Jesus Christ. We only know life and death through Jesus Christ. Apart from Jesus we cannot know the meaning of our life, the meaning of our death, the meaning of God, or the meaning of ourselves. It is only in Christ."

4th) We don't realize we are children **OF THE KING**.

Gal. 4:7 (ESV) So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

1 Peter 2:9 (NLT) But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.