

One Step to Freedom Chapter 2: Initial Restoration; understanding the problem.

Lesson 1: MAN'S CONDITION

**We need God's perspective on the origin and nature of our problems, so we can deal with the root cause...*

**We have inherited sin:*

Romans 5:12 (AMP) ¹² **Therefore, as sin came into the world through one man; Adam and death as the result of sin, so death spread to all men, no one being able to stop it or to escape its power because all men sinned.**

**We are conceived and born in sin:*

Psalm 51:5 (AMP) ⁵ **I was brought forth; born in a state of iniquity; In sin my mother conceived me.**

Psalm 58:3(AMP) **The ungodly are perverse *and* estranged from the womb; they go astray as soon as they are born, speaking lies.**

**We are born spiritually dead separated from God because of our inherited sin:*

Ephesians 2:1 (AMP) **And you He made alive when you were spiritually dead *and* separated from Him because of your transgressions and sins**

**We are prisoners of sin:*

Galatians 3:22a (NLT) **But the Scriptures declare that we are all prisoners of sin,**

Rom 7:6, gal 3:23-24

**God's remedy for the prisoners of sin:*

Galatians 3:22b (NLT) **so we receive God's promise of freedom only by believing in Jesus Christ.**

**We are slaves to sin:*

John 8:34 (NKJV) **Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin.**

**God's remedy for the slaves to sin:*

John 8:35-36 (NKJV) ³⁵ **And a slave does not abide in the house forever, *but* a son abides forever. ³⁶ Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.**

** Sin actively works against us from within us:*

Romans 7:22-23(AMP) ²¹ So I find *it to be* the law of my inner self, that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. ²² For I joyfully delight in the law of God in my inner self/mind, ²³ but I see a different law *and* rule of action in the members of my body in its appetites and desires, waging war against the law of my mind *and* subduing me and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is within my members.

**We have a sinful nature that manifests itself in many ways:*

Galatians 5:19-21(KJV) ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh/sinful nature are manifested, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, ²⁰ Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, ²¹ Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

**Sin results in a double death sentence:*

Romans 6:23 (KJV) ²³ For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

1st death- Hebrews 9:27 (AMP) ²⁷ And just as it is appointed *and* destined for all men to die once (*physical death*) and after this comes judgment.

2nd death- Revelation 21:8: (NKJV) But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”(*eternal spiritual death*)

**God`s remedy for death:*

Romans 7:24-25a (NKJV) ²⁴ O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵ I thank God , *that I am delivered* through Jesus Christ our Lord!

**If we fail to understand the nature of the problem, we will misdiagnose and treat it incorrectly.*

**The worlds diagnosis of addiction; it`s genetic, it`s a disease, it`s a syndrome, it`s substance use disorder, it`s a behavioural disorder, it`s a psychological disorder, it`s mental illness etc.....*

**God`s diagnosis of addiction: it`s a manifestation of sin;*

Galatians 5:19-21(KJV) ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh/sinful nature are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, ²⁰ Idolatry, witchcraft; sorcery (*drug use/addiction*), hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, ²¹ Envyings, murders, drunkenness/alcohol addiction, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which *habitually* do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

**The worlds treatment/remedy for addiction; opiate blocking drugs, anti-anxiety meds, anti-psychotic meds, self help groups etc....*

**God`s perspective of the world`s/man`s treatment/remedy for addiction:*

Matthew 19:26 (NKJV) ²⁶ But Jesus looked at *them* and said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

Psalm 118:8-9 (NKJV) ⁸ It is better to trust in the LORD Than to put confidence in man.

Psalm 146:3 (NKJV) ³ Do not put your trust in princes, *Nor* in a son of man, in whom *there is* no help.

Psalm 108:12 (NKJV) ¹² Give us help from trouble, For the help of man is useless.

**God`s treatment/remedy for the sin of addiction:*

Acts 3:19-20 (AMP) ¹⁹ So repent turn/change your mind and purpose; turn around (take that one step back or forward) and return to God, that your sins may be erased, blotted out, wiped clean, that times of refreshing ; of recovering and reviving from the effects of heat/*sin*, may come from the presence of the Lord; ²⁰ And that He may send to you the Christ, the Messiah, Who before was designated and appointed for you, even Jesus.

**Look to the Cross of Christ and follow Jesus`s example coming against sin. Acknowledge and understand what Jesus Christ did for you on the cross and completely identify yourself with Jesus Christ:*

Romans 6:4-6 (NKJV)⁴ Therefore we were 2.) buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the

Father, even so 3.) we also should walk in newness of *the resurrected life*.⁵ For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be *in the likeness of His resurrection*,⁶ knowing this, that 1.) our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

Personifying Jesus Christ in our new life:

Galatians 2:20 (NKJV) ²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

**Practical application:*

Romans 6:11-14 (NKJV)¹¹ Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. ¹³ And do not present your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God.

**The world`s perspective of addiction -once an addict always an addict.*

God`s perspective of addiction: you can be a new creation with a new identity through faith in Jesus Christ:

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV) ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

**Summation:*

Romans 5:18-19 (NKJV) ¹⁸ Therefore, as through one man`s offense/sin *judgment came* to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man`s righteous act *the free gift came* to all men, resulting in justification of life. ¹⁹ For as by one man`s disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man`s obedience many will be made righteous.

Who was the man that brought judgement to all men through his offense/sin?

What was the offense/sin?

What was the result of the offense/sin?

Who was the man that brought justification of life to all men through His righteous act?

What was His righteous act?

What was the result of his righteous act?

What is the free gift that came to all men, resulting in justification of life?

Who is the disobedient man in this verse?

What was the result of his disobedience?

Who is the obedient man in this verse?

What was the result of His obedience?