

Volume 2 – Day 5: The Nature of Human Nature.

"Wherefore as by one man (Adam) sin entered into the world and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." Romans 5:12

This verse does not imply that God punished the human race for one man's sin; but that the motivation to sin, that is, my claim to my right to myself, entered into the human race by one man. Then "another Man (Jesus Christ) took on Him the sin of the human race and put it away." (Hebrews 9:26)

The motivation to sin is not the acts themselves (immorality and crime) but the tendency toward self-indulgence, self-promotion and self worship - I am my own god. This motivation may work out in high morality or in low immorality, but it has the single basis, my claim to my right to myself, that is, **my rights**. When Our Lord faced men with all the forces of **evil in them**, He did not pay any attention to the moral degradation of the one or to the moral attainment of the other. He looked at something we do not see, that is, the motive.

In the Cross of Jesus Christ, God redeemed the whole human race from the possibility of damnation by the heredity of personal evil (sin). God nowhere holds a man responsible for having the heredity of sin. The condemnation is not that I am born with a selfish nature. But when I realize Jesus Christ came to deliver me from its punishment, and I refuse to let Him do so, at that moment I seal my own damnation.

"And this is the judgment that the light is come into the world and men loved the darkness rather than the light." God does not condemn me, or anyone else to hell. We choose to bear our own penalty or agree with God to let Jesus be our substitute in condemnation.

My Confirming Scripture: My Aligning Experiences: