Sin, Freewill and Sovereignty Semester 2, Week 10

Tonight – Two topics

- 1) Doctrine of sin and original sin
- 2) Doctrine of election

What is sin?

Sin is "missing the <u>mark</u>" A rejection of God, going astray, wickedness, ungodliness, lawlessness, etc.

We are all <u>sinful</u>

Ephesians 2:1-3 – Quote ESV Romans 6:23 – Quote (ESV)

Doctrine of Original Sin

- What is important:
 - All people will sin
 - Punishment for sin is <u>death</u>
 - Jesus is the only one who can pay for our sins

Doctrine of Original Sin

- What is debated:
 - Are humans born guilty of sin?
 - Are humans <u>effected</u> by Adam's sin (and the sin of others), or are they <u>guilty</u> of Adam's sin?

Romans 5:12-15 – Quote (ESV)

Romans 5:18 – Quote (ESV)

Key from Romans 5:18 - Individual responsibility to react to the call of God and repent/believe.

Traditional Doctrine of Original Sin Teaches we are GUILTY at birth on three accounts:

- 1) Sinful nature
- 2) Adam's sin
- 3) Individual sin

What are the practical implications of the traditional original sin doctrine?

1) Infant Baptism

2) Babies wouldn't go to heaven (Isaiah 7:16, II Samuel 12:23). John chapter 9 indicated we are not held accountable for things we cannot understand or are not capable of doing.

Romans 1:20 – Need to be able to "clearly see" which babies and infants cannot do 3) Jesus was fully human and descendent from Adam and he was guiltless

Phil's view - We are subject to the <u>effects</u> of Adam's sin (and everyone since him). We are guilty for <u>our</u> personal sin.

Election

Views of Election:

1) Foresight Election – God chose in Christ for salvation all those whom He <u>foreknew</u> would choose Him

2) Corporate Election – God chose the <u>Church</u> and those who believe become "members" of that Church

3) Unconditional/Individual – God chose individual sinners to be saved before He created the world without any foreseen merit in them.

Romans 8:28-30 – For those whom he <u>foreknew</u> he also <u>predestined</u> to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he <u>predestined</u> he also <u>called</u>, and those whom he <u>called</u> he also <u>justified</u>, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What this does NOT say:

We are either <u>chosen</u> for salvation or not and there's nothing we can do about it.
God <u>forces</u> people to follow his will.

What this DOES say:

 God <u>knows</u> ahead of time what you're going to do but he isn't forcing you to do it.
If you offer a willing surrender to God he has predestined you to be conformed to the image of his Son and you will be <u>justified</u> and glorified.

Is God sovereign? Yes.

Do people have free will? Yes.

How is that possible? I don't know.

Is God powerful enough to accomplish his will and give us free will at the same time? <u>Absolutely</u>.

Should our inability to answer how make us believe it isn't true? Absolutely NOT.

"There are only two kinds of people in the end: those who say to God, "Thy will be done," and those to whom God says, in the end, "Thy will be done." All that are in Hell, choose it. Without that self-choice there could be no Hell. No soul that seriously and constantly desires joy will ever miss it. Those who seek find. Those who knock it is opened."

- C. S. Lewis