

**Total Depravity**  
 Reformation Basics  
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**I. Pirates**

**II. Rebels in the World (Eccl 7:29; Rom 8:8; 14:23; Heb 11:6)**

A. Introduction

In some ways, \_\_\_\_\_ is the most important of the five points of Calvinism. While certainly not the most heart-warming nor the most astounding, it is nevertheless foundational. Why? Because it is this point that enables us to diagnose accurately the nature of our condition as human beings and to identify the type of cure that is needed.

B. A Matter of Loyalty (Eccl 7:29; Rom 8:8; 14:23; Heb 11:26; Rev 4:11)

By nature all of us are loyal to someone other than our Lawful King Jesus. We are all \_\_\_\_\_. Hence, all our actions – some noble and praiseworthy in themselves, others ignominious and shameful – are tainted by our touch. The biblical description of our problem as human beings, in other words, is not primarily that *we do the wrong things* but that *we serve the wrong Lord*: we serve various rebel kingdoms rather than the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Christ Jesus. Consequently, even our most \_\_\_\_\_ deeds are perverse because they are in service to rebel kingdoms.

C. Long Live the King!

Scripturally our problem is not only that we are rebels in the world, the problem is that we are tenaciously committed, blindly loyal to our sin. Consequently, unless and until God of His grace touches our heart and convinces us to switch loyalties, we will persist in our rebellion. The problem, as we already said, is not primarily our actions but our loyalty; it's not the choices we make but the things we love. It is a problem of the \_\_\_\_\_ more than a problem of the \_\_\_\_\_.

### III. The Heart of the Matter (Prov 4:23; Mt 12:33-37)

#### A. Words and actions are the fruit of human nature (Mk 7:21-23)

As human beings our actions are not \_\_\_\_\_. Out of the abundance of the \_\_\_\_\_, the mouth speaks, the will acts. *We do the things we do because we want to do them. We speak the words we speak because we want to speak them.* And when we have competing desires, competing longings, what we want most always wins.

#### B. Evil natures don't produce good fruit

##### 1. Nature of our Person (Ps 51:5; Eccl 7:29; Rom 3:9-12)

##### 2. Nature of our Will (Jn 8:34; Rom 6:15-23)

- CREATION: *posse peccare, posse non peccare*
- FALL: *non posse non peccare*

##### a. Natural Liberty

##### b. Moral Liberty (2 Cor 4:3-4; Eph 2:1-3; Col 2:13)

*“For it was by the evil use of his free-will that man destroyed both it and himself. For, as a man who kills himself must, of course, be alive when he kills himself, but after he has killed himself ceases to live, and cannot restore himself to life; so, when man by his own free-will sinned, then sin being victorious over him, the freedom of his will was lost.”*

Augustine.

#### C. We are all responsible before God (Eph 2:3; Heb 9:27)

### IV. Without God, Without Hope (Eph 2:12)