



Sin's Slippery Slope
Acts 25:1-22

Jared Smith
Melbourne Community Church
October 29, 2017

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Useful for Correction

Orthodoxy

- ❖ What should I start believing?
- ❖ What should I stop believing?

Orthopraxy

- ❖ What should I start doing?
- ❖ What should I stop doing?

Learning Today:

- ❖ Sin produces more sin
- ❖ Everyone inherited sin from Adam
- ❖ Everyone who believes
can inherit righteousness from Jesus
- ❖ Believers must not treat sin lightly

Acts 25:1-2

Three days after arriving in the province, Festus went up from Caesarea to Jerusalem, where the chief priests and the Jewish leaders appeared before him and presented the charges against Paul.

Acts 25:3-4

They requested Festus, as a favor to them, to have Paul transferred to Jerusalem, for they were preparing an ambush to kill him along the way. Festus answered, "Paul is being held at Caesarea, and I myself am going there soon."



Acts 25:5

“Let some of your leaders come with me, and if the man has done anything wrong, they can press charges against him there.”



Psalm 1:1

Blessed is the one
who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,

Psalm 1:1 Verbs

- ❖ Walk = still moving; could redirect
- ❖ Stand = lingering; takes more effort to leave
- ❖ Sit = camped out indefinitely



2 Timothy 2:22

Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.



Acts 25:6

After spending eight or ten days with them, Festus went down to Caesarea. The next day he convened the court and ordered that Paul be brought before him.



Acts 25:7

When Paul came in, the Jews who had come down from Jerusalem stood around him. They brought many serious charges against him, but they could not prove them.

Acts 25:8-9

Then Paul made his defense: "I have done nothing wrong against the Jewish law or against the temple or against Caesar." Festus, wishing to do the Jews a favor, said to Paul, "Are you willing to go up to Jerusalem and stand trial before me there on these charges?"



Acts 25:10

Paul answered: "I am now standing before Caesar's court, where I ought to be tried. I have not done any wrong to the Jews, as you yourself know very well."

Acts 25:11

“If, however, I am guilty of doing anything deserving death, I do not refuse to die. But if the charges brought against me by these Jews are not true, no one has the right to hand me over to them. I appeal to Caesar!”



Acts 25:12

After Festus had conferred with his council, he declared: "You have appealed to Caesar. To Caesar you will go!"

Acts 25:13-14

A few days later King Agrippa and Bernice arrived at Caesarea to pay their respects to Festus. Since they were spending many days there, Festus discussed Paul's case with the king. He said: "There is a man here whom Felix left as a prisoner."

Acts 25:15-16

“When I went to Jerusalem, the chief priests and the elders of the Jews brought charges against him and asked that he be condemned. I told them that it is not the Roman custom to hand over anyone before they have faced their accusers and have had an opportunity to defend themselves against the charges.



Acts 25:17

“When they came here with me, I did not delay the case, but convened the court the next day and ordered the man to be brought in.

Acts 25:18-19

“When his accusers got up to speak, they did not charge him with any of the crimes I had expected. Instead, they had some points of dispute with him about their own religion and about a dead man named Jesus who Paul claimed was alive.

Acts 25:20-21

“I was at a loss how to investigate such matters; so I asked if he would be willing to go to Jerusalem and stand trial there on these charges. But when Paul made his appeal to be held over for the Emperor’s decision, I ordered him held until I could send him to Caesar.”



Acts 25:22

Then Agrippa said to Festus, "I would like to hear this man myself." He replied, "Tomorrow you will hear him."

Romans 5:12-13

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned — To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law.

Romans 5:14

Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

Consequences of Original Sin:

- ❖ Spiritual death
- ❖ Physical death
- ❖ Pain and suffering
- ❖ Conflict in marriage
- ❖ Work became *work*
- ❖ Opposition of nature



Romans 5:15

But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!

Romans 5:16

Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification.

Romans 5:17

For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

Romans 5:18-19

Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

Romans 5:20-21

The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Two Prototypes

Adam:

- ❖ Disobeyed
- ❖ Sin nature
- ❖ Blanket of rebellion

Jesus:

- ❖ Obeyed
- ❖ Living righteousness
- ❖ Blanket of righteousness

Romans 6:1-3

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?



Romans 6:4

We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Romans 6:5-6

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with,

A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped in prayer, resting on an open Bible. The hands are positioned in the upper right quadrant of the frame, with fingers interlaced. The Bible is open, showing two pages of text, and is positioned in the lower half of the frame. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the Bible and the person's arms. The overall lighting is warm and natural, creating a serene and contemplative atmosphere.

Romans 6:6-7

that we should no longer be slaves to sin —
because anyone who has died
has been set free from sin.

Romans 6:8-10

Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped in prayer, resting on an open Bible. The hands are positioned in the center-right of the frame, with fingers interlaced. The Bible is open, showing text on the pages, which are slightly out of focus. The background is a soft, blurred light color, suggesting a bright, indoor setting. The overall mood is one of devotion and reflection.

Romans 6:11

**In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin
but alive to God in Christ Jesus.**



Galatians 2:19-20

“For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.

Galatians 2:20-21

“The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!”

Romans 6:12-13

Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness.

A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped in prayer, resting on an open Bible. The hands are positioned in the center-right of the frame, with fingers interlaced. The Bible is open, showing text on the pages, which are slightly blurred. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light color. The overall mood is peaceful and spiritual.

Romans 6:14

**For sin shall no longer be your master,
because you are not under the law,
but under grace.**





Are you being called?

- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the LORD's Supper