

Week 11-Sin

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Romans 2:24

²⁴As it is written: "God's name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you."

Romans 3:10-18

¹⁰As it is written:

"There is no one righteous, not even one; ¹¹there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. ¹²All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one." ¹³"Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit." "The poison of vipers is on their lips." ¹⁴"Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness."

¹⁵"Their feet are swift to shed blood; ¹⁶ruin and misery mark their ways, ¹⁷and the way of peace they do not know." ¹⁸"There is no fear of God before their eyes."

Romans 6:23

²³For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in ^[a] Christ Jesus our Lord.

Psalm 25 Of David.

1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; 2 in you I trust, O my God. Do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

³ No one whose hope is in you will ever be put to shame, but they will be put to shame who are treacherous without excuse.

⁴ Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths; ⁵ guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

⁶ Remember, O LORD, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old.

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me, for you are good, O LORD.

⁸ Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.

⁹ He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way. ¹⁰ All the ways of the LORD are loving and faithful for those who keep the demands of his covenant.

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¹¹ For the sake of your name, O LORD, forgive my iniquity, though it is great.

¹² Who, then, is the man that fears the LORD? He will instruct him in the way chosen for him. ¹³ He will spend his days in prosperity, his descendants will inherit the land.

¹⁴ The LORD confides in those who fear him; he makes his covenant known to them.

¹⁵ My eyes are ever on the LORD, for only he will release my feet from the snare.

¹⁶ Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. ¹⁷ The troubles of my heart have multiplied; free me from my anguish.

¹⁸ Look upon my affliction and my distress and take away all my sins. ¹⁹ See how my enemies have increased and how fiercely they hate me!

²⁰ Guard my life and rescue me; let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.

²¹ May integrity and uprightness protect me, because my hope is in you. ²² Redeem Israel, O God, from all their troubles!

Isaiah 43

Israel's Only Savior

¹ But now, this is what the LORD says—
he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:
"Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

² When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you;
and when you pass through the rivers,
they will not sweep over you.
When you walk through the fire,
you will not be burned;
the flames will not set you ablaze.

³ For I am the LORD, your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;
I give Egypt for your ransom,
Cush ^[a] and Seba in your stead.

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⁴ Since you are precious and honored in my sight,
and because I love you,
I will give men in exchange for you,
and people in exchange for your life.

⁵ Do not be afraid, for I am with you;
I will bring your children from the east
and gather you from the west.

⁶ I will say to the north, 'Give them up!'
and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.'
Bring my sons from afar
and my daughters from the ends of the earth-

⁷ everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

⁸ Lead out those who have eyes but are blind, who have ears but are deaf.

⁹ All the nations gather together and the peoples assemble.
Which of them foretold this and proclaimed to us the former things?
Let them bring in their witnesses to prove they were right,
so that others may hear and say, "It is true."

¹⁰ "You are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "and my servant whom I have chosen,
so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god
was formed, nor will there be one after me.

¹¹ I, even I, am the LORD, and apart from me there is no savior.

¹² I have revealed and saved and proclaimed—I, am not some foreign god among
you. You are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "that I am God.

¹³ Yes, and from ancient days I am he. No one can deliver out of my hand. When I act,
who can reverse it?"

God's Mercy and Israel's Unfaithfulness

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¹⁴ This is what the LORD says— your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "For your sake I will send to Babylon and bring down as fugitives all the Babylonians, in the ships in which they took pride.

¹⁵ I am the LORD, your Holy One, Israel's Creator, your King."

¹⁶ This is what the LORD says— he who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters, ¹⁷ who drew out the chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick:

¹⁸ "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.

¹⁹ See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.

²⁰ The wild animals honor me, the jackals and the owls, because I provide water in the desert and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to my people, my chosen,

²¹ the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise.

²² "Yet you have not called upon me, O Jacob, you have not wearied yourselves for me, O Israel.

²³ You have not brought me sheep for burnt offerings, nor honored me with your sacrifices. I have not burdened you with grain offerings nor wearied you with demands for incense.

²⁴ You have not bought any fragrant calamus for me, or lavished on me the fat of your sacrifices. But you have burdened me with your sins and wearied me with your offenses.

²⁵ "I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.

²⁶ Review the past for me, let us argue the matter together; state the case for your innocence.

²⁷ Your first father sinned; your spokesmen rebelled against me.

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²⁸ So I will disgrace the dignitaries of your temple, and I will consign Jacob to destruction and Israel to scorn.

Isaiah 44- Israel the Chosen

¹ "But now listen, O Jacob, my servant, Israel, whom I have chosen.

² This is what the LORD says—

he who made you, who formed you in the womb, and who will help you:
Do not be afraid, O Jacob, my servant, Jeshurun, whom I have chosen.

³ For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground;
I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.

⁴ They will spring up like grass in a meadow, like poplar trees by flowing streams.

⁵ One will say, 'I belong to the LORD'; another will call himself by the name of Jacob; still another will write on his hand, 'The LORD's,' and will take the name Israel.

The LORD, Not Idols

⁶ "This is what the LORD says—

Israel's King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty:
I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God.

⁷ Who then is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and lay out before me what has happened since I established my ancient people, and what is yet to come— yes, let him foretell what will come.

⁸ Do not tremble, do not be afraid.

Did I not proclaim this and foretell it long ago?
You are my witnesses. Is there any God besides me?
No, there is no other Rock; I know not one."

⁹ All who make idols are nothing,
and the things they treasure are worthless.
Those who would speak up for them are blind;
they are ignorant, to their own shame.

¹⁰ Who shapes a god and casts an idol, which can profit him nothing?

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- ¹¹ He and his kind will be put to shame;
craftsmen are nothing but men.
Let them all come together and take their stand;
they will be brought down to terror and infamy.
- ¹² The blacksmith takes a tool
and works with it in the coals;
he shapes an idol with hammers,
he forges it with the might of his arm.
He gets hungry and loses his strength;
he drinks no water and grows faint.
- ¹³ The carpenter measures with a line
and makes an outline with a marker;
he roughs it out with chisels
and marks it with compasses.
He shapes it in the form of man,
of man in all his glory, that it may dwell in a shrine.
- ¹⁴ He cut down cedars, or perhaps took a cypress or oak.
He let it grow among the trees of the forest,
or planted a pine, and the rain made it grow.
- ¹⁵ It is man's fuel for burning;
some of it he takes and warms himself,
he kindles a fire and bakes bread.
But he also fashions a god and worships it;
he makes an idol and bows down to it.
- ¹⁶ Half of the wood he burns in the fire;
over it he prepares his meal,
he roasts his meat and eats his fill.
He also warms himself and says,
"Ah! I am warm; I see the fire."
- ¹⁷ From the rest he makes a god, his idol;
he bows down to it and worships.
He prays to it and says, "Save me; you are my god."

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- ¹⁸ They know nothing, they understand nothing;
their eyes are plastered over so they cannot see,
and their minds closed so they cannot understand.
- ¹⁹ No one stops to think,
no one has the knowledge or understanding to say,
"Half of it I used for fuel;
I even baked bread over its coals,
I roasted meat and I ate.
Shall I make a detestable thing from what is left?
Shall I bow down to a block of wood?"
- ²⁰ He feeds on ashes, a deluded heart misleads him;
he cannot save himself, or say,
"Is not this thing in my right hand a lie?"
- ²¹ "Remember these things, O Jacob,
for you are my servant, O Israel.
I have made you, you are my servant;
O Israel, I will not forget you.
- ²² I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist.
Return to me, for I have redeemed you."
- ²³ Sing for joy, O heavens, for the LORD has done this;
shout aloud, O earth beneath.
Burst into song, you mountains,
you forests and all your trees,
for the LORD has redeemed Jacob,
he displays his glory in Israel.

Jerusalem to Be Inhabited

- ²⁴ "This is what the LORD says—
your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb:
I am the LORD,
who has made all things,
who alone stretched out the heavens,
who spread out the earth by myself,

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- ²⁵ who foils the signs of false prophets
and makes fools of diviners,
who overthrows the learning of the wise
and turns it into nonsense,
- ²⁶ who carries out the words of his servants
and fulfills the predictions of his messengers,
who says of Jerusalem, 'It shall be inhabited,'
of the towns of Judah, 'They shall be built,'
and of their ruins, 'I will restore them,'
- ²⁷ who says to the watery deep, 'Be dry,
and I will dry up your streams,'
- ²⁸ who says of Cyrus, 'He is my shepherd
and will accomplish all that I please;
he will say of Jerusalem, "Let it be rebuilt,"
and of the temple, "Let its foundations be laid."

Micah 7

Israel's Misery

- ¹ What misery is mine!
I am like one who gathers summer fruit
at the gleaning of the vineyard;
there is no cluster of grapes to eat,
none of the early figs that I crave.
- ² The godly have been swept from the land;
not one upright man remains.
All men lie in wait to shed blood;
each hunts his brother with a net.
- ³ Both hands are skilled in doing evil;
the ruler demands gifts,
the judge accepts bribes,
the powerful dictate what they desire—
they all conspire together.

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- ⁴ The best of them is like a brier,
the most upright worse than a thorn hedge.
The day of your watchmen has come,
the day God visits you.
Now is the time of their confusion.
- ⁵ Do not trust a neighbor;
put no confidence in a friend.
Even with her who lies in your embrace
be careful of your words.
- ⁶ For a son dishonors his father,
a daughter rises up against her mother,
a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—
a man's enemies are the members of his own household.
- ⁷ But as for me, I watch in hope for the LORD,
I wait for God my Savior;
my God will hear me.

Israel Will Rise

- ⁸ Do not gloat over me, my enemy! Though I have fallen, I will rise. Though I sit in darkness, the LORD will be my light.
- ⁹ Because I have sinned against him,
I will bear the LORD's wrath,
until he pleads my case
and establishes my right.
He will bring me out into the light;
I will see his righteousness.
- ¹⁰ Then my enemy will see it and will be covered with shame, she who said to me,
"Where is the LORD your God?"
My eyes will see her downfall; even now she will be trampled underfoot
like mire in the streets.

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¹¹ The day for building your walls will come, the day for extending your boundaries.

¹² In that day people will come to you
from Assyria and the cities of Egypt,
even from Egypt to the Euphrates
and from sea to sea and from mountain to mountain.

¹³ The earth will become desolate because of its inhabitants, as the result of their deeds.

Prayer and Praise

¹⁴ Shepherd your people with your staff,
the flock of your inheritance,
which lives by itself in a forest,
in fertile pasturelands. ^[a]
Let them feed in Bashan and Gilead
as in days long ago.

¹⁵ "As in the days when you came out of Egypt, I will show them my wonders."

¹⁶ Nations will see and be ashamed,
deprived of all their power.
They will lay their hands on their mouths and their ears will become deaf.

¹⁷ They will lick dust like a snake,
like creatures that crawl on the ground.
They will come trembling out of their dens;
they will turn in fear to the LORD our God and will be afraid of you.

¹⁸ Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression
of the remnant of his inheritance?
You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.

¹⁹ You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl
all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.

²⁰ You will be true to Jacob, and show mercy to Abraham,
as you pledged on oath to our fathers in days long ago.