

IGNORANCE - THE BANE OF MANKIND

Ignorance is at the root of unbelief in man and unbelief is sin in the sight of God. When you do not believe the truth of God, you invariably sin against the God of truth as it were. Unfortunately, many are kept ignorant of this fact.

We go on to identify the greatest ignorance of all, from where all the other kinds of ignorance that we shall bring out take root from or stem out from. This is - **Ignorance of the Truth** which has to do with the lack of knowledge of the only true God and His Son Jesus Christ whom He sent. For this is the ignorance that breeds unbelief in men by default which is the sin of the whole world as it were.

The whole world knoweth not the only true God and His Christ in their vain wisdom, talk less of the relationship between them. The world knoweth not the Truth, but rather have been deceived in believing a lie instead from onset. **Rev 12:9**

Jn 1:10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

Jn 16:3 And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me.

Jn 17:25 O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee:

Rom 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; **Vr.19** Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; **Vr.21** Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. **Vr.22** Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, **Vr.25** Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator,

The ignorance of the Truth in man results in unbelief which is the root sin, iniquity. And that is found in all of mankind that are born of Woman into this world. Eve changed the truth of God into a lie in her response to the serpent in the garden. She with Adam eventually ended up worshipping and serving the creature rather than the Creator in the world with their human offspring. **Gen 3:1-17; Ps 51:5**

Out of this foundation ignorance of the Truth stems:

- 1] Ignorance of Iniquity and Sin,
- 2] Ignorance of the solution for dealing with Sin and death.

We shall briefly examine each scope of ignorance listed above.

IGNORANCE OF SIN

Sin was in the world and men were in sin, yet they knew it not. The Law came by Moses having a form of knowledge of the truth concerning Sin, but not the true knowledge of sin as iniquity. Then those that were given the Law got to have the idea of what sin outwardly was about. For that they had been sinning all the while without knowing it.

Rom 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: **Vr.13** (For until the law sin was in the world [*but men knew it not*]):

Jn 1:17 For the law was given by Moses,

The Law was not geared at giving knowledge of the inward sin called iniquity, which is of the heart cum soul, but rather that of the outward sin, which is of the flesh cum body as it were. So ignorance persisted still even under the era of the Law that was of the shadows.

Therefore, by the Law, men judge according to the flesh, outward appearance and not righteous judgment as it were. **I Sam 16:7; Jn 7:24; Jn 8:15**

Rom 7:7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet. **Vr.14** For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

Rom 3:20 for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Without the coming of the Law men being in sin would have still remained ignorant of the knowledge of sin that is seen in the outward works of the flesh manifest. The Law made them to realize that certain things that they had been doing without knowing it was sin before God. Men were in error and knew it not until the Law was given.

The Pharisees falsely declared, that because they as the custodians of the Law were the doers thereof, that they were righteous, without sin by reason of adhering to the Law. Rather to them, it is those that are without the Law that are sinners instead,

more especially the Gentiles. They being ignorant of the sin of iniquity at work in them. **Lk 18:9-14**

Jn 7:49 But this people who knoweth not the law are cursed.

Jn 9:34 They answered and said unto him, Thou wast altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us? And they cast him out.

Rom 2:17 Behold, thou art called a Jew, and retest in the law, and makest thy boast of God, **Vr.18** And knowest his will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law; **Vr.19** And art confident that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness, **Vr.20** An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law. **Vr.21** Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal? **Vr.22** Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege? **Vr.23** Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God?

The Law was not given to sinners in order to do away with sin in them, but basically to expose sin and to make men realize how sinful they were in order for them to seek God for solution from the bondage thereof. By the Law, all of mankind were made guilty and condemned before God as it were.

I Tim 1:9 Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, **Vr.10** For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine;

Rom 3:19 Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law [*Why? For what purpose?*]: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. **Vr.9** What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin;

Gal 3:21 Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law. **Vr.22** But the [*law of the*] scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ [*which is of grace*] might be given to them that believe.

WHAT THE LAW COULD NOT DO?

The preaching of the Law is of the ministration of condemnation and of death. So that by the deeds of the Law no man can be justified before God as it were. Men under the Law had need to be delivered from the curse of the Law.

Unfortunately, men being ignorant of the purpose of the Law looked to it for solution to the sin problem to no avail. They being ignorant of the fact that sin derives its power over them by the Law. They not being able to keep the whole Law, disobey the commandments, thereby still remaining in sin. For sin is the transgression of the Law.

I Cor 15:56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

Rom 4:15 Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression.

Jam 2:10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

I Jn 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

2 Cor 3:6 Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life. **Vr.7** But if the ministration of death [*of which the Law was*], written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away: **Vr.9** For if the ministration of condemnation be glory,

Rom 3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight:

IGNORANCE OF INIQUITY

The righteousness of God is not gotten nor is it attained by the doing cum observance of the Law, for that is not the purpose for which God gave the Law in the first place. The Law was not given in order to take away sin and justify a sinner before the holy One, but to bring sinners to the form of knowledge of sin in this world, but not the knowledge of the root sin which is unseen, the sin of the heart called iniquity.

This root Sin was in the world but the knowledge, awareness and consciousness of it was still hid from men even with the coming of the Law and the knowledge that it

brought concerning a form of sin. By the Law men came to know what fleshly actions of theirs were sinful before God. But were not knowledgeable about iniquity of the heart as the true source or root of such dead works.

Jn 8:33 They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? **Vr.34** Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.

Rom 6:16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Men began to have the consciousness of sins by the Law, but yet the Law had no power in itself to deal with sin where the conscience cum heart was concerned. The Law set out to deal with sin where the external works of the flesh was concerned but to no avail. Same thing is the case with the laws of the land in the governing of the kingdoms of this world.

Hebr 9:1 Then verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary. **Vr.9** Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; **Vr.10** Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation.

Jn 8:3 And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst, **Vr.4** They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. **Vr.5** Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou? **Vr.7** So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you [*that is iniquity*], let him first cast a stone at her. **Vr.9** And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

Jn 1:17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

It is only by grace and truth that came by Jesus Christ that the knowledge of the root sin, iniquity, is truly revealed cum understood, and dealt with from the root, which is of the heart and conscience of the sinner. This the Law could not do being weak in the flesh as it were.

Mtt 26:41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Rom 8:3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: **Vr.4** That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Those that are under the Law walk after the flesh even as those without the Law do too. Therefore, both being in the very same bondage of sin that dwelleth in the flesh as it were.

Rom 7:15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. **Vr.16** If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good. **Vr.17** Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. **Vr.18** For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. **Vr.20** Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me [*which is identified as iniquity*].

The Psalmist prophesied about it, but yet the mystery of iniquity was hid from their understanding until the time appointed by Christ Jesus.

Ps 51:2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. **Vr.3** For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. **Vr.5** Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. **Vr.6** Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. **Vr.16** For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it : thou delightest not in burnt offering. **Vr.17** The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

IGNORANCE OF THE SOLUTION TO THE SIN PROBLEM

Moses by the Law did not bring solution to the problem of the Sin of the world, rather God sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ as the solution to it, once and for all on the behalf of the whole world, starting with the Jews.

Jn 1:29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

Jn 18:37 Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

Jn 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; **Vr.32** And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. **Vr.36** If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

It was only Christ that knew what was in man exactly. And it was he that had the solution for it, not Moses nor the Prophets of old who operated in the shadows instead. Christ came as a light into this world of darkness to light up every man that shall truly believe in him. **Jn 1:4,9**

Jn 2:24 But Jesus did not commit himself unto them, because he knew all men, **Vr.25** And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man.

Jn 9:2 And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? **Vr.3** Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents:

The Jews to whom the Old Testament was given believed that the Law was the solution to the sin of the world. Therefore, they sought after the righteousness of the Law as the means of receiving justification and salvation in the sight of God. By this they were blinded and kept ignorant of the righteousness of God without the Law which is of grace through faith in Christ Jesus.

Rom 3:21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; **Vr.22** Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: **Vr.23** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; **Vr.24** Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Eph 2:5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) **Vr.7** That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. **Vr.8** For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: **Vr.9** Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Many today that claim to be born again Christians in the CAO are yet under the bondage of sin till date due to the ignorance enumerated herein, deceiving themselves. It ought not to be so.

Acts 17:30(ASV) The times of ignorance therefore God overlooked; but now he commandeth men that they should all everywhere repent: