

Problem:

1 Cor 1:26-29

The cross of Christ is not for good people, it is not for moral people. It is for bad people with no illusions that they are good. It is for immoral people with no illusions that they are righteous.

but illusions come natural to us - think fig leaves - we love to forget our own unrighteousness.

When i think of the dugger scandal i am disturbed not so much by the fact that this guy sinned but by the fact that we seem surprised that a believer could sin in the first place.

the cross becomes a sword when we forget grace is not goodness

it becomes a hammer when we forget mercy is not morality

but the cross is not about our goodness and it is not about our morality - it is about His

CPT:

John illustrates using, an invalid, that man's inability is not a problem but that his delusion of his own ability is a problem.

Text:**our problem is not our depravity**

John 5:1 ¶ After this there was **a feast of the Jews**, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

John 5:2 ¶ Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called **Bethesda (house of mercy)**, which has five roofed colonnades.

John 5:3 In these lay **a multitude of invalids**—blind, lame, and paralyzed. *(none of the earliest manuscripts have verse 4 and none of the later versions included it)*

John 5:5 One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years.

John 5:6 When **Jesus saw him** lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, **“Do you want to be healed (whole/healthy)?”**

John 5:7 The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me.” *(his answer in essence is “i am unable to do that”)*

John 5:8 Jesus said to him, **“Get up, take up your bed, and walk.”**

John 5:9 And at once **the man was healed**, and he took up his bed and walked. ¶ **Now that day was the Sabbath.**

(3-6) a multitude of invalids - Jesus chose one - why only one? Is God unjust?

Roman 9:1-24 - Mercy explained

deut 7:1-8 - Mercy illustrated

(7-9) the good news - lk 18:9-27 - with man its impossible but with God all is possible

Rom 5:6-8 - while we were sinners

it is our delusion

John 5:10 So **the Jews** said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath, and **it is not lawful** for you to take up your bed.”

John 5:11 But he answered them, **“The man who healed me, that man said to me**, ‘Take up your bed, and walk.’”

John 5:12 They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take up your bed and walk’?”

John 5:13 Now **the man who had been healed did not know who it was**, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place.

John 5:14 Afterward **Jesus found him in the temple** and said to him, **“See, you are well! (as opposed to the Law 5:10) Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you.”**

John 5:15 **The man went away and told** the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.

(10) not lawful - Romans 3:1-24 - not convicted of their need

(14-15) Do you want to get well? NO!

Mark 2:15-17; John 9:35-41; - they thought they could see

jn 5:40; 12:35-38 and refused to come to Him - what about you?

Main Idea: Our problem is not our depravity it is our delusion— eph 2:1-11

(In other words the fact that we are unable to affect our salvation is not the problem the fact that we think we can affect our salvation is.)

implication:

not of works- boasting in our love for God - Col 2:20-23

do not boast in your love for God - Matt 26:30-35 - it will fail

Action: dont build your faith on YOUR devotion -

application

do not boast in your love for God, it will fail, boast in His love for you - 1 John 4:10- it will never fail

Action: build your faith on HIS devotion

here are some great articles for further discussion:

regarding Jesus and feast day:

<http://www.gotquestions.org/Jewish-feasts.html>

regarding our propensity to trade mercy for moralism:

<http://www.albertmohler.com/2014/04/08/moralism-is-not-the-gospel-but-many-christians-think-it-is/>

regarding boasting not in our love for Him but His love for us:

<http://www.desiringgod.org/messages/let-him-who-boasts-boast-in-the-lord>