Biblical Christians in Culture. *Looking at the world through the lens of The Word.*Discovering, applying biblical Truth,confronting untruth with Truth.

**Ep. 6: Bad to the Bone**

“Inherent corruption” reflects Scriptural truth. We are “shot through” by sin that invades every area of our lives. We are not as bad as we could be, but we *are* “bad to the bone”!

*REPEATED THEMES 1. Belief affects behavior and behavior affects belief. 2. Everyone everywhere has assumptions, pre-thinking. 3. Christian thinking is molded by Scripture’s commands, principles, & doctrine 4. Everyone has “doctrine” that forms their thinking. 5. Doctrine influences living.*

We Have No One to Blame but Ourselves Cheating in fishing, chess, poker. *Bros* director blames audience. Government sues car maker for people stealing cars. “Neo-pronouns” – the words are bad. *Lord of the Rings* Smeagol / Gollum. Stories exist because of evil. I am surprised people don’t sin more.

Comparison with the Cultural View Draw the diagram:

What makes people “bad to the bone”? Ps 51:5-7; Ecc 7:20; Jer 17:9; Mark 7:21-24; Rom 3:9-23; 5:12-19; 6:23; Eph 2:1-4; 4:17-19

That Doesn’t Mean, However . . . The cultural perspective is that outside influences (environment, biology, and psychology) produce wrongdoing. The biblical point of view reverses that. Because of the Bible’s teaching about sin, we need to point our fingers at ourselves first. This doesn’t mean everything is your fault. Many people suffer terrible abuse through no fault of their own. We are sinners living in a world filled with sinners. *As a result, not only do we sin, but other sin against us.*

Phrases that Bear Critique “Innocent as a newborn baby” “As a criminal, society made me what I am.” “A child is born with a morally blank slate” “If the government would just outlaw guns, killing would stop!” “We need more money for education to make a difference.” “Since society and culture change, therefore evil will change.” “There’s nothing after this life therefore I will take what I can get.” “Good and evil are purely a subjective experience.”

Evil: A result of sin (Gen 3; Rom 3:9-20; Eph 2:1-3; Col 2:13-15; Rev 12:1-9) Evil is real, historical, and personal. Evil can never win. Evil people follow the principles of the evil one

Our Human Condition **(1) People are born** with the seeds of sin planted deep within the soil of their person (Gen 5:3; Ps 51:5; 58:3; Rom 5:12); **(2) There is no way** that human beings can do anything to gain God’s acceptance (Rom 3:19-20). **(3) The “good” that people do** is considered as putrid trash (Isa 64:6; Phil 3:7-9); (3) Christians struggle with sin (Rom 7:17-25) even though The Father no longer holds our sin against us (Rom 8:1-2); **(4) Christians should fear God,** the One who gave the law (Ex 20:18-20), who controls our eternal destiny (Matt 10:26-28), and who holds the key to true education (Prov 1:7; 9:10); **(5) Ecclesiastes 7:20** places the capstone on the discussion: “There is not a righteous person on earth that does right and never sins.”

Questions: Where Do We Go from HereIf people are good, why do we lock our homes or follow banking rules? Should people be held accountable for their actions? If so, how? How are you convinced that all bad behavior can be reduced to biology, environment, society or psychology? Is “fear of the unknown” a recognition of something evil in human nature? What does the horror genre of literature or film tell you about human nature? Why do you think there are so many books and movies on the subject? Why is it important that we compare-contrast other views of humanity with the Hebraic-Christian perspective?