

## 10. Total Depravity

BC 15, 24; Canons 3&4:2-4,11,16; e1-4

### Total Depravity

**Natural man is dead in sin [Eph. 2:3; Canons 3&4:e4].**

His mind is dark and His heart and will are rebellious [Canons 3&4:1].

**What's meant by total depravity**

Natural man is a corrupt tree that produces only evil fruit [Mt. 7:17-18].

**For a work to be a good work how must it be done? [HC 91]**

Out of faith; according to God's law; to the glory of God

**Further proof that an unbeliever can't do good works:**

[Romans 14:23] Whatsoever is not done out of faith is sin [HC 91].

[Hebrews 11:6] Without faith it is impossible to please God.

[John 15:5] Apart from Christ we can't do anything good.

[Rom. 8:7-8] The natural man is unable to obey the God whom he hates.

**What motivates an unbeliever to do what outwardly appears good?**

Self-love & fear of damnation [BC 24]

**An unbeliever does not have a free will**

He has a rebellious will and is a slave to sin [BC 24; Canons 3&4:16].

**Man after the fall begat children in his own likeness.**

A corrupt stock produces a corrupt offspring [Canons 3&4:2].

**We deserve to be born with a depraved nature.**

We're guilty for the sin of Adam, our head [Rom. 5:12].

This is called our original guilt.

We receive our original sin because of our original guilt.

### Natural Light

**The "light" that remains in unbelieving man [BC 14]**

He knows there's a God and that He must be served [Rom. 1:19,28,32].

He has some regard for outward order in society [Canons 3&4:4].

**Sufficient to leave him [without excuse]**

[Rom. 1:20; BC 14; Canons 3&4:4]