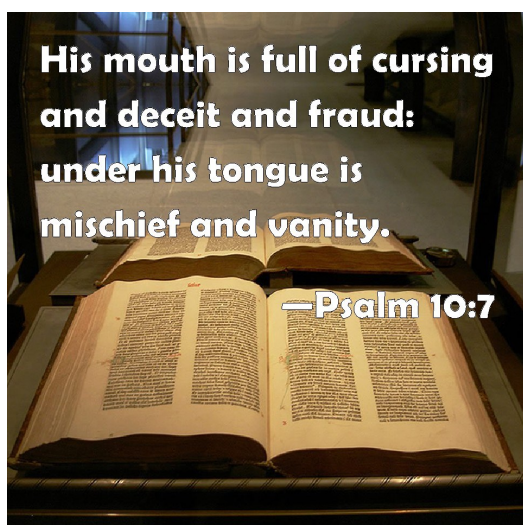


Romans 3:9-18

The apostle Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, understood the evil of human nature. He did not underrate human depravity neither did he underestimate the redeeming power of Christ Jesus to save the most wayward sinner. Many believers “give up” on people. They say this or that type of person will never come right. No one is too bad that God can’t save them. The hopelessness of humanity poses a challenge to us who have faith to believe that God is able to save the chief of sinners. Jew and Gentile are under the dominion of sin. The Greek phrase “for under sin” is “*HUPO HAMARTIAN*”. The word *HUPO* means power or authority. The word *HAMARTIAN* means sin. The book of Galatians refers to a school boy as being “under the authority of a teacher or guardian” - “*HUPO-PAIDAGOGON*” (*Pedagogy*) **Galatians 4:1-2**.. In this sense, says Paul, humanity is under the power, control and authority of sin. (This depravity is in the soul of man even from conception. **Psalm 51:5**) **Romans 3:10**.

Paul then strings together a collection of paraphrased quotes from the Old Testament.

(*Psalm 14:1-3; Psalm 5:9; Psalm 140:3; Psalm 10:7; Isaiah 59:7-9; Psalm 36:1*). The old rabbis called this method of communication “*CHARAZ*” a Hebrew word meaning “*STRINGING PEARLS*”.



Depravity starts in the “heart” or mind of man (*Mark 7:21-23*) and manifests itself through the throat – tongue – lips until the whole mouth is filled with cursing and bitterness. The “feet” represents action and swift response leading to destruction. Life is then lived with impunity – with little or no respect for God.

See **Jeremiah 17:9**

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QUESTIONS:

Why is mankind depraved?

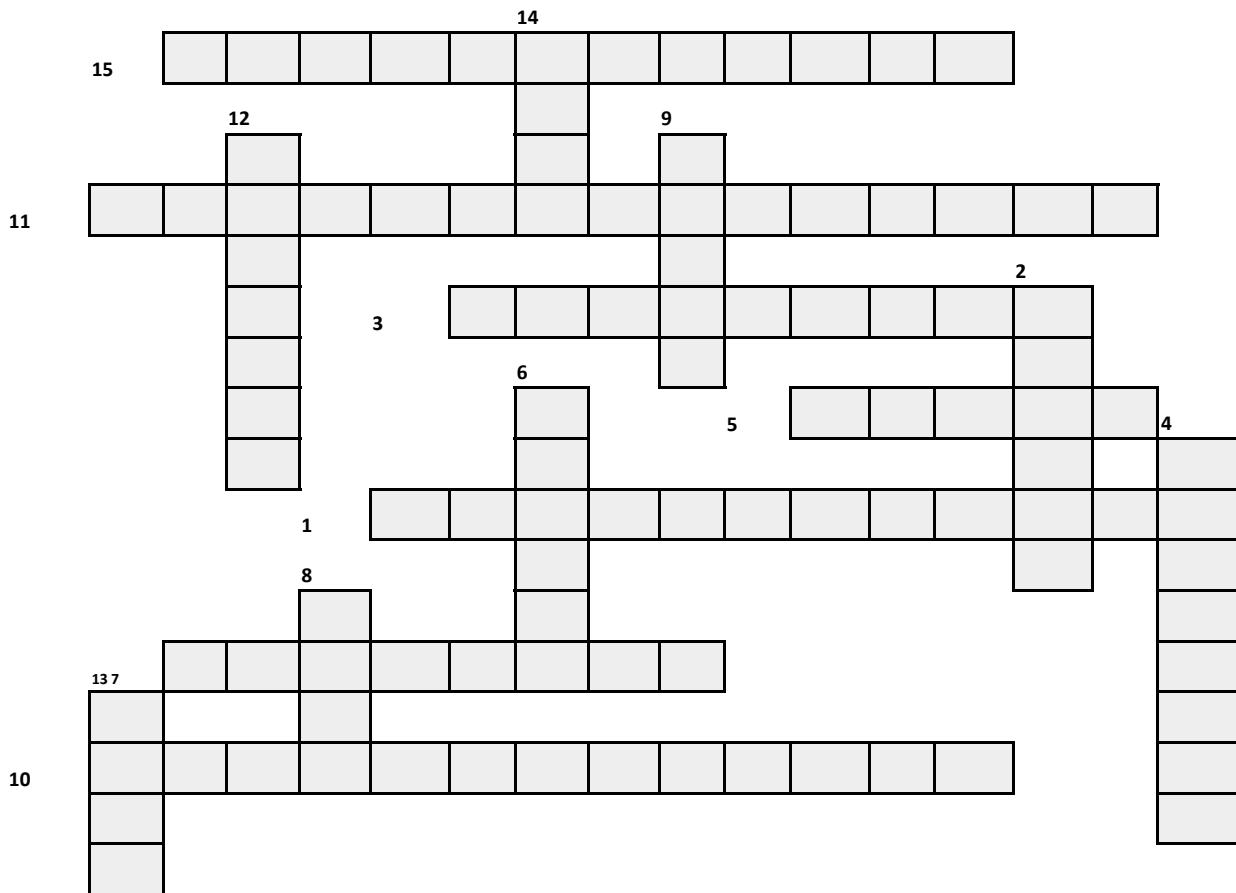
When did this depravity start in the heart of man?

Look up the Old Testament readings mentioned in this study and highlight or underline them in your Bible.

Complete the Crossword (based on the KJV Bible – Text below)

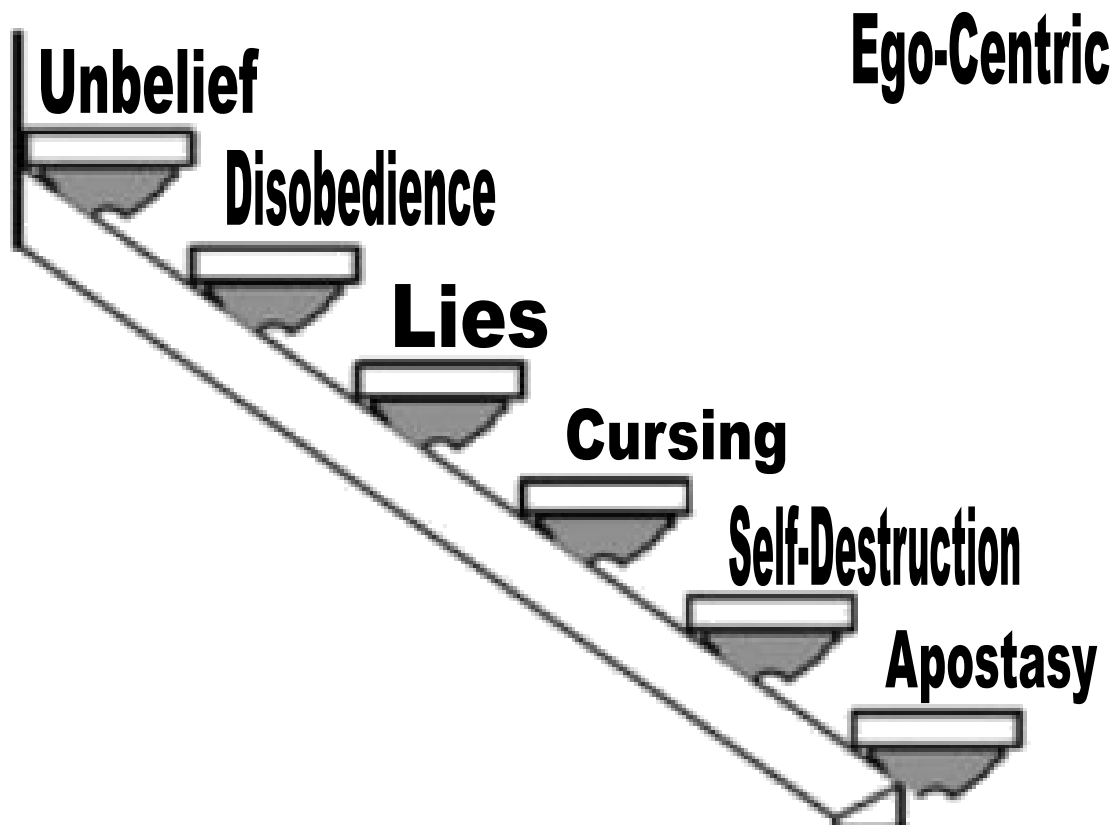
Rom 3:1-18 What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision? (2) Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God. (3) For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? (4) God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged. (5) But if our unrighteousness commend the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unrighteous who taketh vengeance? (I speak as a man) (6) God forbid: for then how shall God judge the world? (7) For if the truth of God hath more abounded through my lie unto his glory; why yet am I also judged as a sinner? (8) And not rather, (as we be slanderously reported, and as some affirm that we say,) Let us do evil, that good may come? whose damnation is just. (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; (10) As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: (11) There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. (12) They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. (13) Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: (14) Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: (15) Their feet are swift to shed blood: (16) Destruction and misery are in their ways: (17) And the way of peace have they not known: (18) There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

CROSSWORD ROMANS 3:9-18

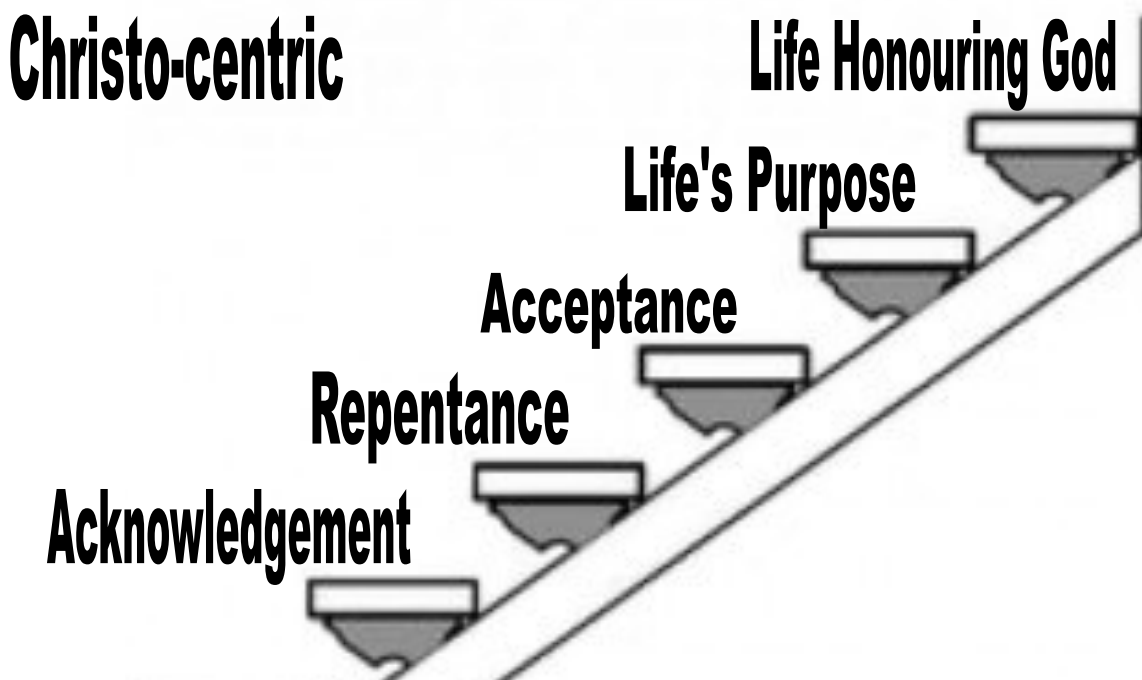


No.	Question
1.	1 What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of _____?
2.	13 Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used _____; the poison of asps is under their lips:
3.	4 God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be _____ in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.
4.	3 For what if some did not believe? shall their _____ make the faith of God without effect?
5.	17 And the way of _____ have they not known:
6.	6 God _____: for then how shall God judge the world?
7.	7 For if the truth of God hath more _____ through my lie unto his glory; why yet am I also judged as a sinner?
8.	10 As it is written, There is _____ righteous, no, not one:
9.	14 Whose _____ is full of cursing and bitterness:
10.	11 There is none that _____, there is none that seeketh after God.
11.	5 But if our _____ commend the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unrighteous who taketh vengeance? (I
12.	2 Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the _____ of God.
13.	8 And not rather, (as we be slanderously reported, and as some affirm that we say,) Let us do evil, that good may come? whose
14.	15 Their _____ are swift to shed blood:
15.	12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become _____; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

DOWNWARD STEPS



UPWARD STEPS



2 Corinthians 5:17