

How is the sinful nature of the world defined by God?

Romans 3:10-12: "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."

Romans 5:12: "Just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned."

As such:

Psalm 51:5: "Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me."

Romans 7:18: "I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can't."

Why?

Mark 7:23: "All these evil things come from within and defile a man."

Romans 3:23: "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

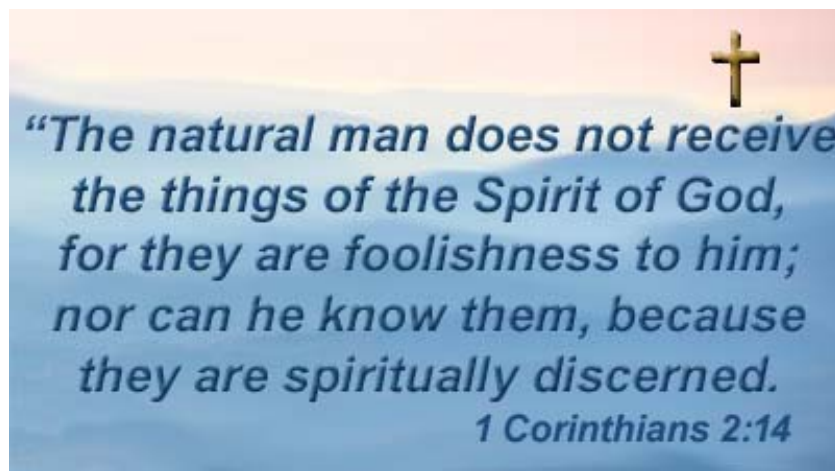
As true believers in Christ however:

Ephesians 2:1-2: "And you *He made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world."

Romans 6:6: "Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with *Him*, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin."

Am I a true believer in Christ, and do I steadfastly crucify my fleshly desires, and therefore live to abide in Him?

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Why is the natural man spiritually undiscerning?

Romans 1:20-23: "For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man."

What's more?

Romans 8:7: "The carnal mind *is* enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be."

Jeremiah 17:9: "The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked."

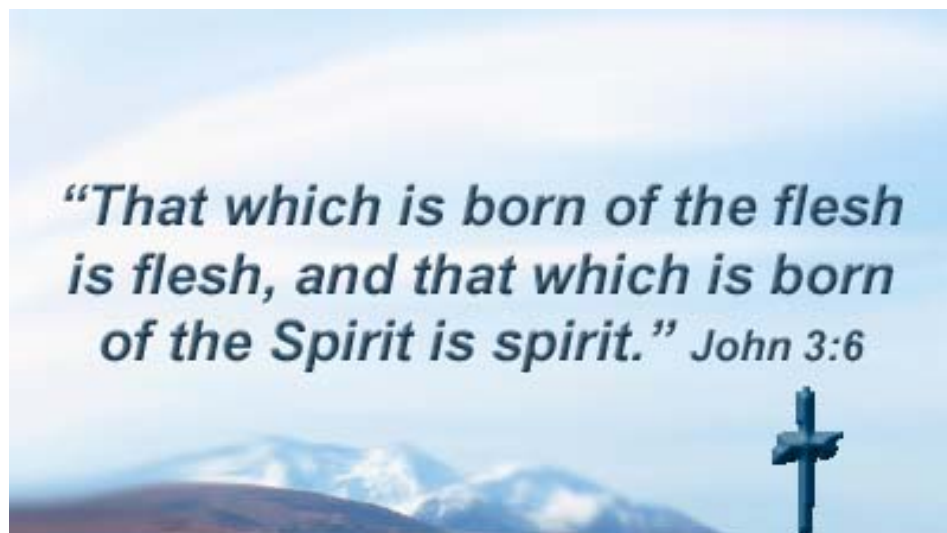
Galatians 5:17: "The flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish."

As such:

Ephesians 2:3: "We all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others."

As a born again believer, do I understand the importance of abiding in Christ, so I am spiritually discerning?

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How did God plan the rescue of mankind?

Romans 8:3: "What the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God *did* by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh."

Ephesians 1:5: "He predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with His pleasure and will."

As such:

Ephesians 1:7-9: "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that He lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, He made known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Christ."

Ephesians 1:13-14: "In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the Word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise."

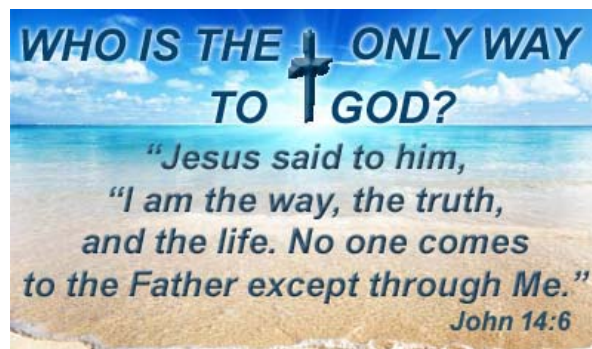
The reason Jesus declared:

John 6:37: "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out."

Therefore:

Ephesians 4:22-23: "Put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind."

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To this Jesus added:

John 3:3: "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Who is Jesus?

John 1:1: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

John 1:14: "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

Why did God send Jesus to us?

John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Ephesians 2:4-5: "God is so rich in mercy, and He loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, He gave us life when He raised Christ from the dead."

Why does mankind need a Savior?

Romans 3:23: "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God."

As such:

Romans 6:23: "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Therefore:

Romans 5:8: "God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

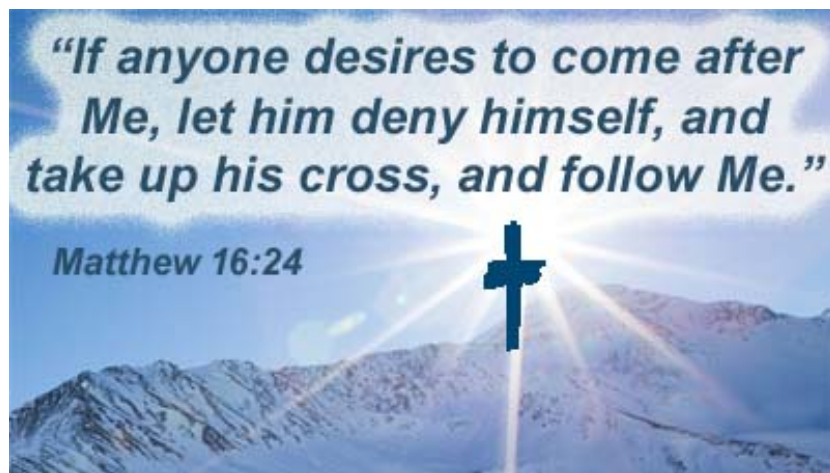
As a result:

2 Corinthians 5:21: "He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

Am I following the only way to God, Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord?

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Why, if we are born again, must we take up our cross and follow Christ?

2 Corinthians 5:15: "He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again."

Romans 6:6: "Our old man was crucified with *Him*, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin."

Romans 6:11: "You also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus."

Galatians 5:24: "Those *who are* Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires."

As such:

Galatians 2:20: "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

Therefore:

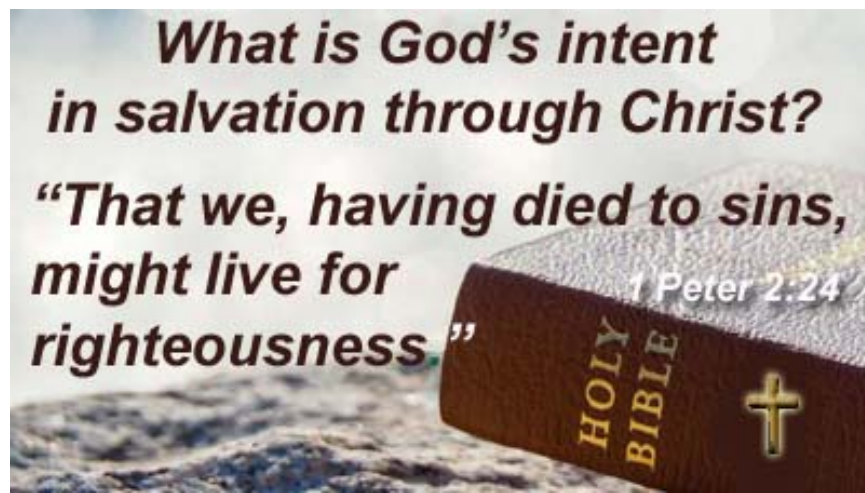
Romans 12:1: "Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service."

Romans 13:14: "Put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to *fulfill its* lusts."

How?

2 Timothy 3:16-17: "All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

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What's more?

Romans 8:29-30: "Whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified."

Ephesians 1:11-12: "In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory."

As such:

Ephesians 1:4-6: "He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us for adoption to Himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will, to the praise of His glorious grace, with which He has blessed us in the Beloved."

Therefore:

1 Peter 2:9: "You *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."

Is my life a testimony to being born again, and truly be conformed to the image of Christ?

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How must a true believer in Christ effectively live?

John 15:4: "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me."

Why?

John 15:6: "If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned."

As such:

1 John 2:6: "He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."

1 John 3:24: "He who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him."

2 Corinthians 5:17: "If anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

Therefore:

Colossians 2:6-7: "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving."

Colossians 3:17: "And whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

Romans 8:1: "*There is* now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit."

How rooted am I in Christ, and how strongly do I abide in Him?

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