

The Attackers: The Sovereign Executive of Witnessing: Unbelievers are Totally Depraved: a Barrier Separates Them from Fellowship with God; Nationality, Race, & Gender Are Removed at Salvation; Spiritual Growth Occurs through the Enabling Power of the Holy Spirit; the World's Efforts to Remove Prejudice Are Ineffective & Devolve into Tyranny

B. The Sovereign Executive of Witnessing

1. There is an impenetrable barrier that separates the unbeliever from God. This circumstance is described as total depravity. This term encompasses the host of principles that defines the hopeless condition into which we are born into this world.
2. The ambassador must have a clear understanding of this situation and the consequences of it that face the unbeliever.
3. The following principles define the inherent problem of **total depravity**:
 - (1) Man's proclivity toward moral or immoral degeneration.
 - (2) Total separation from God and total helplessness to do anything about it.
 - (3) Under total depravity, man is unable to understand spiritual phenomena or do anything to have a relationship with God.
 - (4) When man receives soul life at physical birth, it activates the functions of the sin nature which become the basis for total depravity.
 - (5) Man has a predilection for sin and to follow the dictates of the sin nature.
 - (6) Total depravity is synonymous with human degeneracy.
 - (7) Total helplessness to attain a relationship with God on the basis of any human function.
 - (8) "The wicked are estranged from the womb; those who speak lies go astray from birth" (Psalm 58:3).
 - (9) This psalm informs us of personal weaknesses. The cell structure of the body is the home of the sin nature which produces these weaknesses.
 - (10) The barrier is a part of the problem of total depravity which defines us at physical birth, but the sin nature also becomes active to exacerbate the problem in a person's life.
 - (11) From the sin nature we develop flaws and weaknesses that lead to either inferiority or superiority complexes.
 - (12) From these come attitudes, opinions, and prejudices that produce phobias regarding other races, cultures, and ideologies that destroy our spiritual self-esteem.
 - (13) These phobias produce prejudices toward individuals, groups, and nationalities in an effort to validate one's race, culture, and worldview as superior to that of others.
 - (14) Believers in a client nation are able to shed such prejudices by means of three factors: **(1)** understanding that their citizenship is not of this world (Philippians 3:20), **(2)** the principle of unanimity of race, status, and gender: "There is neither Jew nor Greek (races), there is neither slave nor free man (equal status of royal family), there is neither male nor female (gender); for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28), and **(3)** a large inventory of biblical wisdom in the soul (1 Corinthians 2:12-15).

- (15) These credentials do not apply to the devil's world. There are a multiplicity of races, various social structures, and two genders.
- (16) Without doctrine, these categories vie for superiority and status in order to acquire dominance over others. This prevails in a corrupt and fallen environment governed by Lucifer, his fallen angels, and his indoctrinated sycophants in the human race.
- (17) This is the devil's world, and the evils of prejudice are normal and are to be expected; the world's effort to eliminate its manifestations cannot succeed which causes these efforts to devolve into tyranny.
- (18) Even believers are not equal within the royal family due to residual attitudes that remain post-salvation and the failure of some to pursue spiritual growth.
- (19) Nevertheless, this does not remove the obligation of the believer to be prepared and ready to evangelize the lost.