**Head to Toe**

*Romans 3:13-18*

**Passage Background and Context Information**

In Romans 3:10, the Apostle Paul has called God as his witness to testify about humanity’s toxic relationship with sin. We all are in the grip of evil. Our souls are deprived of the power to resist sin. People are not inherently good. J. C. Ryle notes Archbishop Leighton: “The way of sin is downhill; a man et cannot stop when he wants to.” We exist in a state that theologians call “total depravity,” God considers the members of our bodies or parts of our humanity to be servants of sin instead of glorifying Him and helping others. Our nature is permeated with evil. We are collaborators with evil. Sin lives in people, and people live in sin. The entire human race is in rebellion against God, including you and me. There are no exceptions. This is a bold claim, a serious charge. What's the proof? What are the symptoms of this sickness? What is the evidence that we all are evil from head to toe?

**Bible Verse**

###### Romans 3:13-18 (CSB)

13Their throat is an open grave; they deceive with their tongues. Vipers’ venom is under their lips.

14Their mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.

15Their feet are swift to shed blood;

16ruin and wretchedness are in their paths,

17and the path of peace they have not known.

18There is no fear of God before their eyes.

**1. \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ are \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_.**

AS IT IS WRITTEN . . .

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| [**3:10-12**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Rom%203:10-12) “There is none righteous, not even one; There is none who understands, There is none who seeks for God; All have turned aside, together they have become useless; There is none who does good, There is not even one.” | [**Ps. 14:1-3**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps%2014:1-3) **(**[**Ps. 53:1-3**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps%2053:1-3)**)** The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, they have committed abominable deeds; There is no one who does good. The LORD has looked down from heaven upon the sons of men To see if there are any who understand, Who seek after God. They have all turned aside, together they have become corrupt; There is no one who does good, not even one.  [**Eccl. 7:20**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eccl%207:20) Indeed, there is not a righteous man on earth who continually does good and who never sins. |
| [**3:13**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Rom%203:13) “Their throat is an open grave, With their tongues they keep deceiving,” | [**Ps. 5:9**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps%205:9) There is nothing reliable in what they say; Their inward part is destruction itself. Their throat is an open grave; They flatter with their tongue. “The poison of asps is under their lips”  [**Ps. 140:3**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps%20140:3) They sharpen their tongues as a serpent; Poison of a viper is under their lips. |
| [**3:14**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Rom%203:14)“Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness” | [**Ps. 10:7**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps%2010:7) His mouth is full of curses and deceit and oppression; Under his tongue is mischief and wickedness. |
| [**3:15-17**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Rom%203:15-17) “Their feet are swift to shed blood, Destruction and misery are in their paths, And the path of peace they have not known.” | [**Isa. 59:7-8**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Isa%2059:7-8) Their feet run to evil, And they hasten to shed innocent blood; Their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity, Devastation and destruction are in their highways. They do not know the way of peace, And there is no justice in their tracks; They have made their paths crooked, Whoever treads on them does not know peace. |
| [**3:18**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Rom%203:18) “There is no fear of God before their eyes.” | [**Ps. 36:1**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps%2036:1)Transgression speaks to the ungodly within his heart; There is no fear of God before his eyes. |

\*Charles R. Swindoll, *Romans*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Tyndale House Publishers, 2016), 71.

* **Evidence #4 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (13–14)**
  + **Matthew 12:34** Brood of vipers! How can you speak good things when you are evil? For the mouth speaks from the overflow of the heart.
* **Evidence #5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (15–17)**.
* **Evidence #6 \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ (18)**.
  + Psalm 36:1 An oracle within my heart concerning the transgression of the wicked person: **Dread** of God has no effect on him.
  + Exodus 20:20 Moses responded to the people, “Don’t be afraid, for God has come to test you, so that you will fear him and will not sin.”
  + Matthew 10:28 Don’t fear those who kill the body but are not able to kill the soul; rather, fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.
  + Hebrews 10:31 It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

**Pray**

“Jesus, I confess I am a sinner. I deserve Your judgment of death and hell. But I believe You love me, came down for me, lived a perfect life, and shed Your blood and died on the cross for my sins. I also believe that God raised You from the dead for the forgiveness of my sins, to change me, and grant me everlasting life. Please forgive me, change my heart, and give me eternal life. I believe You are my Forgiver and God. I give my life to love, obey, and make much of You! In Jesus’ name, amen.”

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“O Lord, I have no graces by nature. I have no power to cleanse my own heart. I have defaced your image, but I cannot repair it. I can say with the apostle that when I want to do well, evil is present with me, but I find no means to do what I desire. Oh, when will I be set free to do the work of God, and run the race of his commands? If only I had hope, joy, and love! Lord, I have heard of your power. You call things that are not, as if they were. If you desire it, you can work in me these graces, just as you gloriously created them in Adam. Lord, I have also heard of your grace and truth. You are as faithful to keep as you are generous to make these precious promises. Your grace is unsearchable. Your word is purer than silver, seven times refined. Oh, make good your promises! Replenish me with your grace! Amen.” — Isaac Ambrose, “Piercing Heaven: Prayers of the Puritans”

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