


# The Influence of Imperfection

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Christian is Reality: All Have Sinned / Sin; Salvation; Realism; Truth / Galatians 3:21–23

Scripture indicates that the world, including human beings and institutions, are imperfect because of the contaminating influence of sin. This influence extends to the household of faith: are prone to sin and weakness.

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## THE INFLUENCE OF IMPERFECTION

### Christianity is Reality: All Have Sinned

### Galatians 3:21-23

**Galatians 3:21–23** *ESV*

<sup>21</sup> Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. <sup>22</sup> But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

<sup>23</sup> Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed.

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## THE INFLUENCE OF IMPERFECTION ON THE CREATION

**Genesis 3:17–19** *ESV*

<sup>17</sup> And to Adam he said,  
“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife  
and have eaten of the tree  
of which I commanded you,  
‘You shall not eat of it,’  
cursed is the ground because of you;  
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;  
<sup>18</sup> thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;  
and you shall eat the plants of the field.  
<sup>19</sup> By the sweat of your face  
you shall eat bread,  
till you return to the ground,  
for out of it you were taken;  
for you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.”

## THE INFLUENCE OF IMPERFECTION IS EXPRESSED IN DEATH

**Psalms 103:15–16** *ESV*

<sup>15</sup> As for man, his days are like grass;  
he flourishes like a flower of the field;  
<sup>16</sup> for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,  
and its place knows it no more.

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## THE INFLUENCE OF IMPERFECTION ON THE SPIRITUAL

**Job 4:18** *ESV*

<sup>18</sup> Even in his servants he puts no trust,  
and his angels he charges with error;

## THE UNIVERSAL INFLUENCE OF IMPERFECTION ON HUMANS

**Romans 3:23** *ESV*

<sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

## THE INFLUENCE OF IMPERFECTION ON THE HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH

ISRAEL AND HER LEADERS

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH AND ITS LEADERS

**2 Corinthians 12:20** *ESV*

<sup>20</sup> For I fear that perhaps when I come I may find you not as I wish, and that you may find me not as you wish—that perhaps there may be quarreling, jealousy, anger, hostility, slander, gossip, conceit, and disorder.

## HOW TO OVERCOME IMPERFECTION

**HEAR** GOD'S WORD - ROMANS 10:17

**BELIEVE** GOD'S WORD - HEBREWS 11:6

**REPENT** OF YOUR SINS - LUKE 13:3

**CONFESS** JESUS AS THE SON OF GOD - 1 JOHN 4:3

**BE BAPTIZED** FOR THE REMISSION OF SIN - ACTS 22:16

**REMAIN STEADFAST** FOR LIFE - 1 CORINTHIANS 15:58