

# Heidelberg Catechism 6-7 – Perversion in the Family

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ: Children inherit 遗传的 bad characteristics and learn bad habits from their parents. A parent who is meticulously 过度注重细节的 clean can have children who are obsessive about cleanliness. A parent who loves the cold can have children who enjoy winters. A parent who gets bald young can have children who are too. A parent who has a proclivity 倾向 to worry can have children who worry. But who would like to admit that their parents were perverted and that he inherited his perverseness 倔强 from his parents... especially when this is the worse perverseness of all – perversion of the soul? This is exactly how God described you in the Bible...

This is a most important realization because it explains exactly who you are. **You want to have comfort in your soul, but you are perverted in your core.** This is what God wants you to hear today...

Our headings are:

**God made your parents pure**

**Your parents made you perverted**

Our goals are: **That you will daily run to the Lord and thank him for your freedom from your depravity 败坏, and that you will work to rescue those who are languishing 长期受苦 in their sins.**

## **God made your parents pure**

6 Q. DID GOD CREATE MAN SO WICKED AND PERVERSE?

A. No. God created man good and in his own image, that is, in true righteousness and holiness, so that he **might truly know** God his creator, **love him** with all his heart, and **live with him** in eternal happiness for his praise and glory.

**1. You are perverted to the depths of your core.** And one of the first evidence of the depths of this perversion is the tendency to think you are not so bad. This is one of the worse sins! Your sins make you think you are not so sinful.

**2. But did God make man with that perverted core? Look at 3 important things about man's nature when he was created.**

**a. God created man good...very good.** Man was free from any perverse ways. Man headed in the right direction.

Genesis 1:31 Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed **it was very good**. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

**b. God created man in God's own image.** This means that man was truly righteous and holy when he was created. Man reflected the communicable attributes 属性 of God.

Genesis 1: 27 So God **created man in His own image**; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

**c. God created man with the full ability to know God.**

**3. What is the result of all this "knowledge" about the way God made mankind?**

**a. Man could love God – with all his heart, soul, mind, and strength.** This word "know" (above) means to love. It means to experience in a personal way. This shows closeness to the object of love - Jesus. Jesus would come down and talk to Adam in the evening.

**b. Man could live with God** in eternal happiness and be fully satisfied. Man did not want to be like God...all wise and all knowing. He was contented with being the creature and with God being the Creator. Man could be close to God.

**c. After man fell, God restored him to himself through Jesus Christ, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Adam, and began to restore the damaged image of God in man.**

Ephesians 4:24 and that you **put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness**. 25 Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another.

Colossians 3:10 and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

We can speak of this as the re-creation of man in Jesus Christ.

**4. After man was restored to his old position through Jesus Christ and declared to be righteous and holy, man is now able to properly praise God again.** He now praises God as his Creator and his Re-Creator – both through Jesus. You offer your bodies as a living sacrifice...with thanksgiving.

Psalm 8:1...O LORD, our Lord, How excellent is Your name in all the earth, Who have set Your glory above the heavens! 2 **Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained 订立, 命定 praise.** Because of Your enemies, That You may silence the enemy and the avenger 复仇者. 3 When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained, 4 What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him? 5 **For You have made him a little lower than the angels,** And You have crowned him with glory and honor. 6 You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet,

This is a great privilege and honor that someone as ordinary and sinful as you can enter into his holy majesty ...and converse with him...any time of the day...even with the puniest 微不足道的 thing. He is never embarrassed by you...**as you might be** of being around a dirty...or depraved person.

### **Your Parents made you perverted**

7 Q. THEN WHERE DOES MAN'S CORRUPT HUMAN NATURE COME FROM?

A. From the fall and disobedience of our first parents, Adam and Eve, in Paradise. This fall has so poisoned our nature that we are born sinners– corrupt from conception on.

**1. Your first parents sinned, corrupted their nature, and passed on that sin to you.** Whether you like this or not, it doesn't matter to God. **Whether you agree with it or not, is doesn't matter to God.** This is just the plain hard fact that you must accept. You reject it at your own peril 危险.

**2. Furthermore, your first parents started to deny their sin by hiding, so if you disagree with what you inherit, or if you argue against your sinfulness, you are doing exactly what they did.**

Genesis 3:6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and **they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.**

**When people deny their sin...they are confirming the truth of the Bible.** God said that the wicked will deny their sin. It is not normal to accept your sinfulness against God.

**When a man does acknowledge his sin it is usually because the Holy Spirit is renewing 更新 him to be like Jesus Christ.**

**3. That sinful nature is taught with great clarity in the Bible.** Those who teach that man is sick, not dead, are misusing the Scripture to make people feel better than they should or because they are totally ignorant of the most basic truth in the Bible. Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned—17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.) 18 Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification 称义 of life. 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.

**You were completely separated from eternal life and a prisoner of eternal death by your inherited sins and actual sins.**

Ephesians 2:1 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom also 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...

**4. That this sin goes all the way back to conception in your mother's womb is taught without doubt.**

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

You are not continuing to evolve 进化, like evolutionist 进化论者 and modern sociologists say. **No, you are continuing to devolve.** You are going backwards ... down a hill... with a bottomless pit behind you. Notice how Paul and now David, in our two passages above, did not tell people what they wanted to hear. They did not tell people that they were reasonably

good. They needed to speak God's truth so man would see the seriousness of his condition and make his life right with God, just like you would tell someone who is dying that he is dying so he will make his life right with God.

**5. In order to avoid being called a sinner, man creates a scapegoat替罪羊.** He blames God for his sins ...or blames the Devil for tempting him to sin...or blames his environment and society for causing him to sin...or blames his parents for his sinful and criminal behavior. Most people believe they are relatively good in their lives. Consider 2 examples of how a man chooses to think better of himself and worse of others:

**If a man is poor, he justifies证明为对 himself when he steals.** He often argues like this: "Rich people have exploited us so I have a right to envy and steal from them." But it could be that the man is poor because he is lazy or lack appropriate skills, or it may be that the rich man may have inherited his wealth or worked hard for it. Remember the young lady recently who said the homeowner should not have shot her cousin who was robbing her house because he needed money to buy clothes and stuff? (Bernie Sanders recently said that you are greedy if you are rich and want to keep your money for yourself!)

**If the envious man doesn't like the circumstances of his life, he then supports a government that wants to redistribute重新分配 wealth.** (Redistribute wealth is a nice phrase that means "overtax the rich and give to the poor.") The man, because he is sinful, thinks he is doing good. For him, he is not greedy. This is the ultimate perverseness. No one is entitled to a fair share of another man's wealth.

**6. In order to avoid being called a sinner, man likes to change the definition of sin – play games. For him, sin is not really sin, as long as it does not hurt anyone! Examples:**

a. It is okay to get drunk, just don't drive. That might hurt others.

b. It is okay to gamble, as long as you don't rob your children of food. That would hurt them.

c. It is okay to commit adultery奸淫, as long as it is not with someone's wife. That would hurt him.

d. It is okay to steal from government or your company as they are not really people, but it hurts your neighbor if you steal from him.

e. It is okay if you kill yourself (as it is your life) as long as you don't kill others...or it is okay to kill others as long as they want to die!

But you notice you are corrupt from your mother womb, so anything that comes out of you is corrupt. Fallen, unregenerate未重生得救的 man is incapable of true faith, firm hope, and ardent love真挚的爱. Fallen undegenerated man cannot have gratitude感恩. Fallen man is dead. There is no hope for fallen man, the elderly, and babies.

### **Conclusion:**

God did not make you perverted and dead in sin, your parents did...and you add to that perversion every day.

Your very existence became putrid腐烂 and rotten in the nostrils鼻孔 of God. He could not stand you near him to comfort you! This means that man is in a dreadful disaster that will culminate in ultimate and final death-separation from God forever. His only way out is that he gets new life through Jesus. Jesus said: "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit...`You must be born again.'

Brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ:

**1. Every day you must thank the Lord for your rescue from sin and for your eternal life.** Boast about him on Facebook. Talk about him longingly in your lunchroom at work, if you are permitted. **Dine with him each Lord's Day. Commune with him** each morning or night.

**2. Every day you must work and pray that your children will grab the promise** God made to them at their baptism – that Jesus Christ will wash away their sins if they put their trust in him. And in doing so, that the

condemnation for their inherited sins might be removed. **Every day work and pray that God might rescue that person whom you love but is outside of Christ's kingdom – that spouse, co-worker, or friend.** You have right of access because you are Christ's child. Use your privileges for good and to advance Christ's cause.

Finally: If you are not a Christian, don't be overwhelmed by sin. Jesus took a valley of dry bones and gave them life in Ezekiel's time. If you look to him and ask him to give you life he will give you a new heart, and new record, and a new life.