

A photograph of a field of dandelions at sunset. The dandelions are in various stages of bloom, with some showing their characteristic white seed heads. The background is a warm, golden glow from the setting sun, creating a bokeh effect with out-of-focus dandelions. A semi-transparent dark horizontal band is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text.

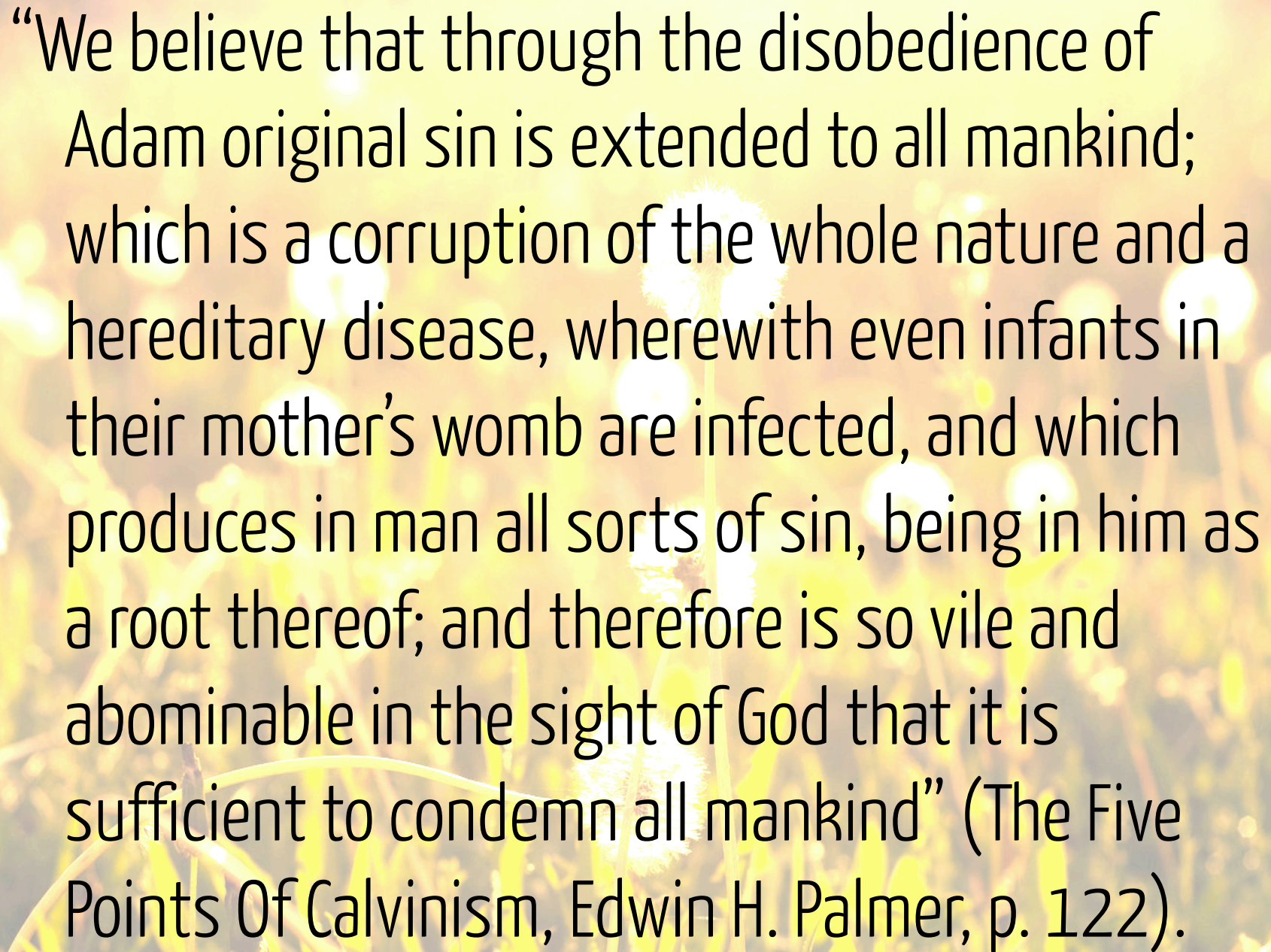
In Evil Be Babes

Do we inherit original sin?

A photograph of a field of dandelions at sunset. The sky is a warm, golden-orange color, and the dandelions are silhouetted against it. A semi-transparent black text box is overlaid on the lower half of the image.

“Brethren, do not be children in your thinking; yet in evil be babes, but in your thinking be mature”

1 Corinthians 14:20



“We believe that through the disobedience of Adam original sin is extended to all mankind; which is a corruption of the whole nature and a hereditary disease, wherewith even infants in their mother’s womb are infected, and which produces in man all sorts of sin, being in him as a root thereof; and therefore is so vile and abominable in the sight of God that it is sufficient to condemn all mankind” (The Five Points Of Calvinism, Edwin H. Palmer, p. 122).

Incapable Of Doing Any Good

- “All people are conceived in sin and are born children of wrath, unfit for any saving good, inclined to evil, dead in their sins, and slaves to sin; without the grace of the...Holy Spirit they are neither willing nor able to return to God, to reform their distorted nature, or even to dispose themselves to such reform.”
- We might have free will, but we are incapable of using it to choose good.



Inherited Depravity

Isn't it funny how I can inherit Adam's sin, but God's grace is so weak that I can't inherit it from Christian parents?

Transmission Of Guilt

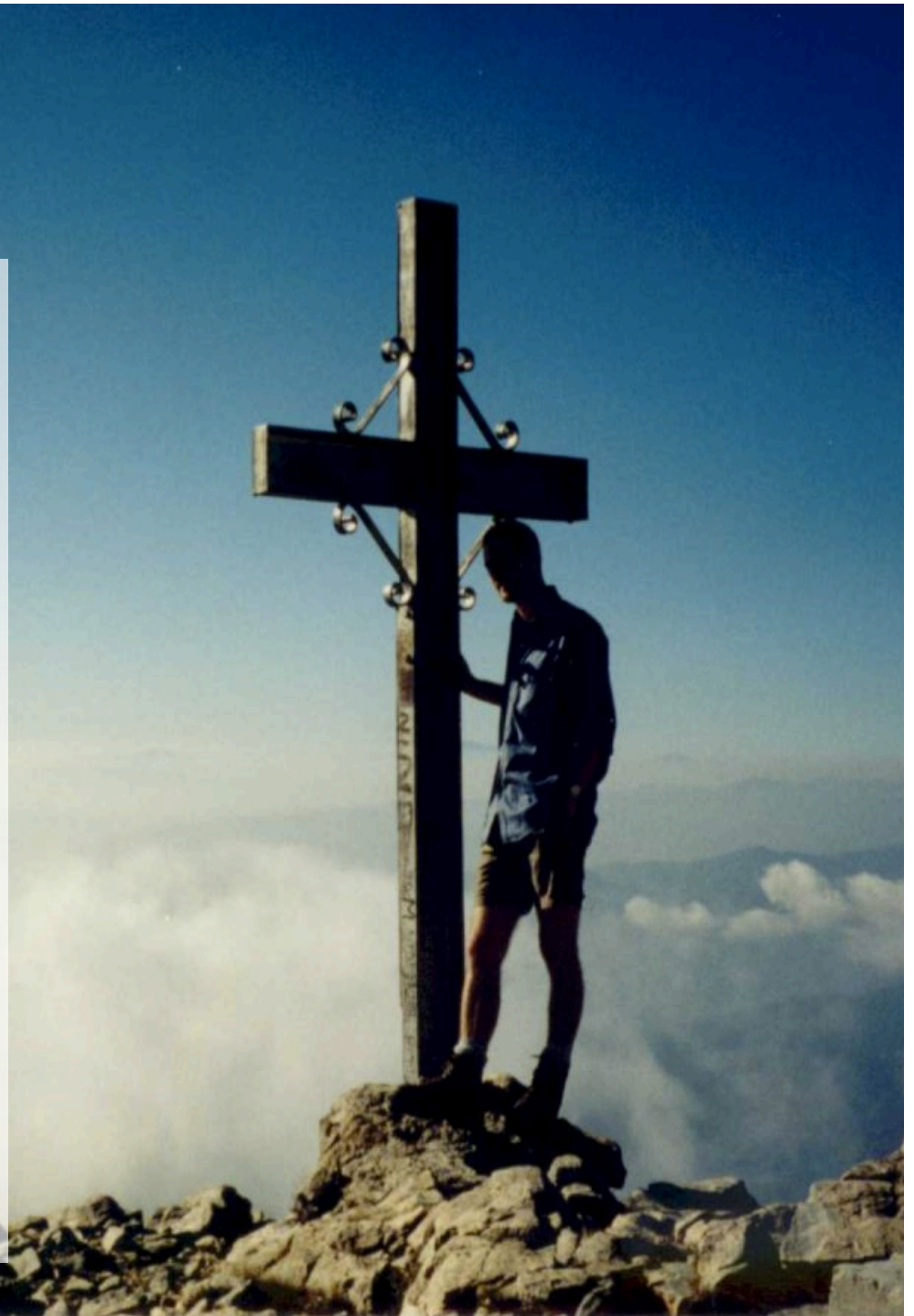
- The Bible consistently explains that we bear our personal sins only (Ezek. 18:1-4, Jer. 32:29-30). “Your sins” separate you from God, not anybody else’s sins (Isaiah 59:1-2).
- The NT confirms this truth (Matt. 12:36-37, 2 Cor. 5:10, Rom. 2:6, 1 Pet. 1:17).
- Use the simple, obvious statements of the Bible to interpret more difficult passages like Romans 3-11, Ephesians 2:1ff, 1 Corinthians 15:20-23.

Capable Of Good

Contrary to Calvinism, we are not so depraved that we cannot seek God (Acts 17:24-31, Jer. 29:13).


Psalms 53 and 51 should be interpreted poetically, rather than literally.

Plenty of examples affirm free will to choose good or evil (Josh. 24:15, 1 Ki. 18:21).



Infants Don't Do Anything

- How can God knowingly condemn infants, when they have not done anything yet? God requires decision/action (Lk. 13:3, Ac. 2:40, 2:38, Phil. 2:12).
- So does this mean that our works save us? What about Ephesians 2:8-9?
- Obedience is required (1 John 1:9, 2:1-6, Rom. 10:9-10, 6:15-17, Ti. 3:1-8).
- Acts 22:16 illustrates that our obedience is not what saves us, but is necessary.



Matthew 18:1-3, 19:13-14

Babies and children are “innocent” (Jeremiah 19:2-6). God made us upright, but we have made the decisions that led to our personal fall from innocence (Ecc. 7:29, Romans 5:12).

