

**Blind to spiritual state** – As human beings we are blind to our spiritual state before God and become proud and hard of heart. This stops us from seeing the truth and responding to it.

**Enslaved to the world** – The bible declares to us that as a result of what we have lost, we take our understanding of what is good and bad and what is pleasurable from the world. The result of this is that we are addicted to selfishness and sin. Addicted to focusing on the here and now, instead of seeing the wider picture.

**False Religions** – Man was created to have a relationship and worship the One True God. When this relationship was broken, man sort out ways of restoring and fulfilling this felt need for a relationship with something / someone greater than himself. The result was that man created idols, images of creatures and worshipped them instead. At the heart of every false religion was designed a **philosophy** – for the mind to believe in. **Spiritual disciplines** – to satisfy the spiritual hunger within and **healing arts** – to replicate the healing and wholeness that the One True God promises those who follow Him. Today the need to worship something is still paramount in our society and people fill this vacuum in different ways.

**Under God's judgement and punishment** – The one true God that has revealed Himself to human beings is a God of justice. Because of our sin, we stand before God as guilty people who God will punish on a great last day of judgement. Hell is the destiny of all those who do not find a living faith in Jesus.

### **Something to think about.....**

You may feel a fairly good person, but if you only sin three times a day, that becomes 21 sins a week, over a 1000 in a year, more than 70,000 in a lifetime! Imagine going to court with 70,000 previous convictions!!!

This is the natural state that we find ourselves in as human beings because of the fall and the sins that we commit. But God has not left us without hope – and that is why He sent Jesus into the world for us.

**THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH, BUT THE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL  
LIFE IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD!!** (Romans 6 v 23)