

THE KNOW SERIES

Who, What, When, Where, Why, How of the Christian Experience

LESSON # 12

CHRISTIANS BELIEVE GOD MADE MAN UPRIGHT (But Something Happened)



OBJECTIVE: This class focuses on the Doctrine of Humanity, highlighting the significance of understanding the fall of humanity to fully comprehend the plan of salvation. It underscores the importance of comprehending God's original intentions for humanity and the subsequent implications of the fall. By exploring questions about the unchanging nature of God and the necessity of salvation, the chapter emphasizes that the fall's impact reaches beyond just historical events.

The class begins by examining the state of humanity before the fall. It describes how people were created innocent, with direct fellowship with God and dominion over the earth. The concept of being created in the image of God is explored, emphasizing moral resemblance and the capacity for unique attributes. The narrative then shifts to the fall and original sin, discussing Eve's interaction with Satan, the implications of her decision, and how it led to a drastic change in humanity's condition. The fall's impact on various aspects of life, including death, relationships, and creation, is discussed in detail.

The class also highlights the connection between the fall and salvation. It notes that only the upright could fellowship with God, and God's promise of a Messiah is introduced as a way to address the fall's consequences. The role of Jesus in bearing the curse of the fall and providing redemption is underscored. Overall, the chapter underscores the profound effects of the fall on humanity and its relationship with God, emphasizing the need for salvation and the redemptive work of Christ.

The chapter concludes with an encouragement to pray for one another and for the schools we attend.



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THE DOCTRINE OF (TEACHING ABOUT) HUMANITY

Without a proper understanding of the fall of Man we cannot fully understand the plan of salvation. Also, without such understanding, we will fail to comprehend God's original plan for man or His future purpose and plan for man. Unless we gain the necessary insight, we will only have a partial understanding of our world and the Bible.

Question: If things were the same today as they were on the day of creation, what may we conclude about God by observation?

Question: If man is the same as he always will be then why must we be saved?

(I) MAN BEFORE THE FALL

- A. Man was created in innocence and upright.
 - 1. Ecc. 7:29; Gen 3:8-13
- B. Man had unseparated fellowship with God.
 - 1. Gen 2:15-17, 3:8-13
 - 2. The separation we see testifies to our sinfulness.
- C. Man was given the earth to rule.
 - 1. Gen. 2:19-20 (denotes ownership)
 - a. What did Adam do when he named woman?
 - 2. Gen. 1:26, 28-30
 - 3. Gen 9:1-2 (even in this age)
- D. Man was created in the image of God.
 - 1. Gen. 1:26, 6:9
 - 2. I Cor. 11:7; Ja. 3:9
- E. What is the image of God?
 - 1. Is it a physical likeness? No.
 - 2. Is it a representation of the Trinity?
 - 3. Moral resemblance and sharing of the unique divine attributes.
 - a. In so much as man surpasses animals.
 - b. Capacity for justice and compassion, for love and hate.
 - c. Ability to relate to the past, present and future.
 - d. Ability to need to establish long meaningful relationships.
 - e. Ability to communicate and "philosophize."
 - f. Ability to choose, ability to create.



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(II) THE FALL AND ORIGINAL SIN

Question: How many ate of the fruit in the garden?

Question: Why do we suffer the sin they committed?

- A. Eve listened to Satan rather than God.
 - 1. She set her will against God.
 - a. The will is a "free" thing affected by the mind, the soul, and the spirit.
 - 2. "Aspiration" is a key word to understanding the fall.
 - 3. We should notice the Scripture twisting going on.
- B. The "Fall"
 - 1. Everything in us fell; mind, body, emotions, spiritual capacity.
 - 2. The appetites of the flesh became lust.
 - 3. The will is now in bondage to Satan.
(Rom. 6:6)
 - 4. Man ceases to become upright and became a sinner.
 - 5. Inability to do good (spiritually).
 - 6. Gen. 6:5; Job 14:4, 15:14-15; Isa. 1:5-6; Jer. 3:33, 17:9; Rom. 3:10-18;

(III) DEATH AND FALL

- A. Death did not exist before the fall.
- B. What did Adam and Eve see when their eyes were "opened?" (Gen. 3:7)
- C. A drastic change occurred in man's relationship with animals.
- D. Sickness enters into the scene.
- E. Hate, suspicion, murder, extended through ALL creation.

(IV) THE FALL IN RELATION TO SALVATION

- A. Only the upright man could fellowship with God. (Isa. 64:6)
- B. God did not set down a law to save Adam but gave the promise of a Messiah.
- C. When Adam tried to cover his own sin to no avail, God Himself covered it.
- D. I John 3:8
- E. Jesus bore the curse of the fall. (Jn. 3:36)

Keep Praying for Each Other and Pray for Your Schools!!!!



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