

DOCTRINE

MAN

LESSON #9

I. HIS CREATION

Gen. 1:26-31 gives the general creative act, and Gen. 2:7, 15-25 gives the particular description of the account.

(1) Man formed out of the dust of the ground – Gen. 2:7. The word “formed” means “squeezing into shape – to mold as a potter to determine.” This is not a genetically formed or evolved person. See I Cor. 15:45 – “... was made a living soul.”

(2) Breathed into his nostrils the breath of life – Gen. 2:7. “Breathed” means “to puff, inflate, blow on.” This is what made him a “living soul.” The word “soul” means “a breathing creature,” animal or human. The word “soul” in I Cor. 15:45 is the same. See Gen. 7:22, Gen. 1:21, 24; 2:19, using the word “living creature” meaning the same as “living soul” in Gen. 2:7.

(3) Man in Our image – Gen. 1:26. This is what makes man different from the animals.

- a. I Cor. 2:11 – He knows – not as God knows, but man can relate to God or has a God-conscience.
- b. He has dominion over all living things.
- c. Man is immortal – that is, he will either live eternally with God, or die eternally in the lake of fire.

Qualitatively, it seems that man lost some of his God image when he fell. See what is recovered in his regeneration. See Eph. 4:22-24, Col. 3:9-10 and II Cor. 3:18. Notice this image we are being changed into is not physical, but spiritual. His knowledge of God is greater, or spiritual. His righteousness is true righteousness. Also note Col. 1:15 – “Who is the image of the invisible God” – in all of His glory, beauty, and holiness, and we are being changed into His image. It is no wonder the world doesn’t know us, for it didn’t know Jesus either. See I John 3:1-2. Also see the glorious end in store for us. This is not to say we are being restored to the state of Adam, but much more. Adam was able to fall (sin). But when we are with God in heaven, we will not be able to fall. Also, even in this present life we are made righteous, and are not able to fall as Adam did.

II. HIS FALL

(1) Gen. 3 gives an account of how sin entered the human race. The results are seen throughout the rest of the Bible.

(2) The Genesis narrative is not an allegory or a myth, but is and must be received as the literal interpretation. We see and face the facts of the fall every day.

(3) Results of the fall – Rom. 5:12. Sin entered into the world, death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned. Rom. 3, Ps. 14, Isa. 53:6. “All have sinned and come

short of the glory of God." "There is none righteous, no, not one." Rom. 3:19. The world is guilty before God, and is under the curse. See Gal. 3:10 and Eph. 2:3. The wrath of God abides on everyone not saved. John 3:36. I John 3:8-10, John 8:44, I John 5:19. The unregenerate are considered to be children of the devil. Rom. 7. Men are seen to be in captivity to sin, not being able to do anything about it. Eph. 4:18, I Cor. 2:14. Their understanding is darkened. Jer. 17:9-10. The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked. Gen. 6:5, Titus 1:15. The conscience, heart and imaginations are defiled. Rom. 7:18. The will is feeble, and there is nothing good in the flesh.

(4) Some thoughts on sin – I John 3:4. Sin is any lack of conformity to the law, or a transgression of it. "Transgression" means "missing the mark." Lev. 19:2 "Ye shall be holy; for I the Lord your God am holy." This is the standard or mark by which all must be graded, and obviously fall far short. It was this revelation to Isaiah (Isa. 6:1-6) that caused him to recognize his own corruption. We may summarize the sin question as follows: Anything in the creature which does not express, or which is contrary to, the holy character of God, the Creator.

1. Explain the making of man from the Genesis narrative.
2. What do the Scriptures mean by "breathed into him the breath of life?"
3. How is this life different from that of animals?
4. What is meant by "made in the image of God?"
5. What did man lose in the fall?
6. What is regained in regeneration?
7. Unto Whose image are we being changed?
8. Why is the Genesis account of the fall not allegorical or mythical? What is it?
9. How did sin enter the human race?
10. Is it possible for any man to please God aside from the power of Christ?
11. Why is all the world guilty before God?
12. What is meant by "The wrath of God abides in all unsaved men?"
13. What are all unsaved men captive to?
14. What is meant by "The heart is deceitful and desperately wicked?"
15. What is sin?
16. What is the standard by which all men are called sinners?