

BIBLE DOCTRINE SURVEY

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SESSION 7

ANTHROPOLOGY & HAMARTIOLOGY: The Doctrine Of Man and the Doctrine Of Sin

This doctrinal study was prepared by Pastor Tom Alexander for use in a Bible Doctrine Survey class at Berea Baptist Bible School in Berea, Ohio, and reflects his personal doctrinal beliefs.

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Session 7 - Anthropology & Hamartiology

ANTHROPOLOGY: THE DOCTRINE OF MAN

1. THE ORIGIN OF MAN

A. He Was Directly Created By God - Gen 1-2

1. God's creation of the world is a fact of history - Ps 33:6; 102:25; Isa 45:18; Jn 1:1-3, 10; Eph 3:9; Col 1:16-17; Heb 1:1-3, 10-12; Rev 4:11
* The creation story is neither myth nor allegory. It is a historical fact.
2. God's creation of the world was accomplished in a period of six literal 24-hour days.
 - a. The terms "evening and morning" indicate a 24-hour period - Gen 1
 - b. When days are numbered in Scripture, they always refer to 24-hour periods (e.g. first day, second day, etc.) - Gen 1
 - c. The days of creation formed God's basis for the week and Sabbath rest - Gen 2:1-3; Exo 20:8-11; 31:13-17
3. God created man by direct creation and not through any evolutionary process - Gen 2:7, 21-22; Ps 139:13-16; Isa 64:8
4. God created one man and one woman, who became the progenitors of the rest of mankind. Mankind, regardless of race, is made up of "one blood" - Gen 3:20; 9:19; Acts 17:24-27
5. The creation of man by God implies the accountability of man to God - Gen 2:15-17; II Pet 2:3-7

B. He Was Created As Male And Female

1. God's design was to create mankind as two distinct sexes - male and female - Gen 1:27; 2:18-23; 5:1-2; Mt 19:4; Mk 10:6
* Any attempt to blur this distinction is contrary to God's plan and is sinful.
2. God's purpose in this creation was monogamous lifelong marriage between a man and a woman - Mt 19:4-10; Mk 10:7-12; Rom 7:1-3
 - a. For the purpose of companionship and intimate fellowship - Gen 2:18, 23-24
 - b. For the purpose of sexual fulfillment within the bonds of marriage - I Cor 7:2-9; Pr 5:18-19
* Any sexual activity outside the bonds of marriage is sin - I Cor 6:13-20; I Thess 4:3-8; Heb 13:4
* Any sexual activity with someone of the same sex is sin - Lev 18:22-25; Rom 1:26-32; I Cor 6:9-11

c. For the purpose of procreation - Gen 1:27-28

d. For the purpose of raising children to the glory of God - Eph 6:1-4

* Note: God's plan for some people is that they do not marry. This is a special gift from God to be used to His glory - I Cor 7

C. He Was Created In Innocence

1. Man was created without sin - Gen 1:31

2. Sin did not enter the world until Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden - Gen 3; Rom 5:12

3. Man's innocence has been described as "untested creaturely holiness."

* Man was created in a state of holiness, but his holiness was not absolute, like God's. It was a creaturely holiness that was subject to testing.

2. THE NATURE OF MAN

A. He Is An Eternal Being

* Every human is an eternal being with respect to the future. Every human will live forever in either Heaven or Hell (Lake of Fire) - Jn 14:1-3; I Thess 4:13-18; II Thess 1:7-9; Rev 20:15; 21:1-8

B. He Is A Being Created In The Image Of God

1. The truth stated: Man was created "in the image of God" - Gen 1:26-27; 9:5-6

* Man is unique among God's creation in this regard.

2. The truth explained

* There is some discussion and disagreement among theologians as to exactly what makes up the image of God in man. The following elements are parts of a typical definition:

a. Man has intellect (intelligence) - Gen 2:19-20

b. Man has emotions (feelings) - Gen 2:18

c. Man has a will (the ability to choose) - Gen 2:16-17; 3:6

d. Man has a moral nature - Gen 3:1-7

e. Man has authority - he was given dominion over the earth - Gen 1:28; 2:15, 19-20

f. Man has the ability to truly fellowship with God - Gen 3:8; I Jn 1:3-7

3. Man retains the image of God in some form even in his fallen state - Gen 9:6; I Cor 11:7; Jas 3:9

C. He Is A Complex (Multifaceted) Being

1. Elements Of Man's Being:

a. Body - A physical body is an essential part of man's nature - Heb 2:14; II Cor 5:1-4

* Even in Heaven we will have a glorified, incorruptible body - I Cor 15:42-54; I Jn 3:2

- b. Soul - The eternal, conscious life principle in man; the seat of the emotions and passions - Gen 2:7; 35:18; Acts 2:31; Heb 10:38-39
- c. Spirit - The life-giving element in man; the seat of intelligence - Jas 2:26; I Cor 2:11; I Cor 5:5; 6:20
- d. Heart - “. in its abstract meanings, ‘heart’ became the richest biblical term for the totality of man’s inner or immaterial nature. In biblical literature it is the most frequently used term for man’s immaterial personality functions as well as the most inclusive term for them since, in the Bible, virtually every immaterial function of man is attributed to the ‘heart.’” (*Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament, Vol. 1*, Moody Press, 1980, pg. 466). The “heart” includes the intellect (Pr 2:2; 11:29), emotions (Pr 15:13; 17:22), will (Pr 3:1; 16:9), and the very core of one’s being and personality (Pr 4:23).
- e. Mind - The seat of understanding - Acts 17:11; Rom 7:23-25; 8:7; Php 2:2-5
- f. Conscience - The part of man that is able to reason and determine a morally right action from a morally wrong action - Acts 23:1; Rom 2:15; I Tim 4:2
- g. Will - The ability to make decisions and choose a course of action - Josh 24:15; Acts 27:43; I Tim 6:9; Jas 4:4

2. Views Concerning Man’s Nature

- * There is a debate among even conservative theologians concerning how many “parts” make up the essence of man’s nature.
 - a. Trichotomy - Man is made up of three parts: body, soul, and spirit - I Thess 5:23; Heb 4:12
 - * Those who hold to this view frequently refer to man as a “trinity” in his being.
 - b. Dichotomy - Man is made up of two parts: the material and immaterial.
 - * Just as the material body has many sub-parts, so the immaterial portion of man has many sub-parts (some are listed above).
 - * The immaterial part of man is never subdivided in reality. It is always a unit.
 - * The terms “soul” and “spirit” are used interchangeably in Scripture. It is difficult to clearly differentiate them.

3. Views Concerning The Transmission Of The Immaterial Part Of Man

- a. The Pre-Existence Theory - God created all the souls that would every be born at the beginning of creation. He combines these with human bodies as needed.
 - * This view is not accepted by conservative theologians.
- b. Creationism - God directly creates the separate, immaterial part of man for every human (at conception or birth).
- c. Traducianism - The immaterial part of man passes through from parent to child. God placed within man the ability to not only transmit a new physical body to a child, but also to transmit the immaterial part of man as well.

3. THE PURPOSE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MAN

A. His Chief Purpose Is To Glorify God - Rev 4:11; I Cor 10:31

B. He Is To Live In Obedience To His Creator - Gen 1:28; 2:16-17

C. He Is To Reproduce Himself

1. He is to reproduce himself physically - Gen 1:28; 9:1, 7; Ps 127:3-5
2. He is to reproduce himself spiritually - Mt 28:19-20; Mk 16:15; Gal 3:8

D. He Is To Have Dominion And Serve As A Steward Over Creation - Gen 1:26-28; 2:15

E. The Christian Has Distinctive Responsibilities

1. To become like Christ - Rom 8:29; Eph 4:13; Php 2:5; I Jn 2:6; I Pet 2:21
2. To bear spiritual fruit - Jn 15:1-8; Gal 5:22-23
3. To proclaim the gospel Mt 28:19-20; Mk 16:15; Lk 24:46-49; Jn 20:21; Acts 1:8

4. THE FALL OF MAN

A. The Fact Of His Fall - Gen 3

* This chapter is a historic account of the temptation and fall of man. It is not an allegory or myth.

B. A Result Of His Fall Was Death

1. The Fact of Death

- a. Death was the penalty for sin that was given by God to Adam - Gen 2:16-17
- b. Death entered the world through Adam - Rom 5:12
- c. Death is God's righteous penalty for sin - Rom 6:23; Ezek 18:4, 20

2. The Realms of Death

* Death is separation. It is seen in three forms or realms:

a. Physical Death - Separation from the body

* Adam and Eve did not physically die on the day they ate the fruit. But the process of death did begin within their bodies. And they did eventually die physically - Gen 5:5

* Death is now the normal experience of every human - Heb 9:27

b. Spiritual Death - Separation from God

* Adam's relationship to God was broken when he sinned - Gen 3:7-11

~ He hid; he tried to cover his guilt; a blood sacrifice had to be made.

* Every person who has been born after Adam has been born into a state of spiritual death, or separation from God - Eph 2:1, 5

c. Eternal Death - Separation from God for eternity - II Thess 1:9; Rev 20:6, 14-15; 21:8

C. A Result Of His Fall Was God's Curse

1. The Curse On Satan - Gen 3:14-15
 - * The serpent, the tool of Satan, was cursed to crawl on its belly and eat dust.
 - * Satan was told that the seed of the woman (Jesus Christ) would bruise his head.
2. The Curse On Man - Gen 3:16-19
 - * The woman would see increased pain in childbirth, and would be subject to increased submission to her husband - 16
 - * The man would see an increase of labor and difficulty in work. The ground would actually fight against him and his work would be marked by the "sweat of his brow" all the days of his life. He would eventually die physically - 17-19
3. The Curse On Creation - 3:17-18; Rom 8:22
 - * Creation itself was placed under a curse due to Adam's sin.
 - * Not only did physical death enter the realm of mankind, the animal world was also made subject to death - Gen 3:21; Rom 5:12

D. A Result Of His Fall Was The Sin Nature

1. In Adam all sinned - Gen 5:1-3; Rom 5:12; I Cor 15:22
 - * How did all of humanity sin in Adam? Once again, theologians debate the issue!
 - a. Seminal Headship Theory - All humans were present in Adam in seminal form and actually sinned in him.
 - b. Federal Headship Theory - Adam acted as man's representative. When he sinned, God accounted that all sinned.
2. All humans are born with a sin nature - Ps 51:5

HAMARTIOLOGY: THE DOCTRINE OF SIN

1. THE NATURE OF SIN

A. The Descriptions And Definition Of Sin

1. Sin is lawlessness - I Jn 3:4
2. Sin is missing the mark of God's perfection - Rom 3:23
3. Sin is transgression against God's law - Rom 4:15; 5:14
4. Sin is unrighteousness - Rom 1:18
5. Sin is wickedness - Gen 6:5
6. Sin is iniquity - Isa 53:6; I Tim 1:9
7. Sin is wandering astray from God - Isa 53:6; I Pet 2:25
8. Man is capable of sinning with his mind - Mt 5:27-28
9. SUMMARY DEFINITION - Sin is anything we say, think, or do that is contrary to God.

B. The Condition Of Lost Man

1. Man's Condition With Respect To Sin
 - a. He is a sinner - Rom 3:23; 5:8; 5:12
 - b. He is born in sin - Ps 51:5
 - c. He is a "child" of disobedience - Eph 2:2; 5:6
 - d. He is "under" sin's power & dominion - Rom 3:9; 7:14; Gal 3:2
 - e. He is a slave of sin - Jn 8:34; Rom 6:17-20
2. Man's Condition With Respect To Satan
 - a. He is a child of the Devil - Jn 8:44; I Jn 3:10
 - b. He is a captive of Satan - II Tim 2:26; Lk 4:18
 - c. He is under Satan's power - Acts 26:18; Eph 2:2; Col 1:13
3. Man's Condition With Respect To God
 - a. He seeks his own way, independent from God - Isa 53:6
 - b. He is guilty before God - Rom 3:19
 - * "Guilty" = "Under judgment; brought to trial; answerable to; liable to punishment of God" (only time used in N. T.)
 - c. He is condemned by God - Jn 3:18
 - d. He is under God's wrath - Jn 3:36; Rom 1:18; Eph 5:6
 - e. He is God's enemy - Jas 4:4; Rom 5:10; Col 1:21
4. Man's Condition With Respect To Spiritual Capacities
 - a. His heart is deceitful and desperately wicked - Jer 17:9
 - b. He is inwardly defiled - Mk 7:20-23
 - c. His conscience is defiled - Titus 1:15
 - d. He is spiritually blind - II Cor 4:3-4
 - e. He is spiritually dead - Eph 2:1, 5; Rom 5:12; I Jn 5:12
 - f. He is incapable of receiving spiritual truths - I Cor 2:14; Eph 4:17-18
5. Man's Condition With Respect To Salvation
 - a. He is lost - Lk 19:10
 - b. He does not seek God - Rom 3:11
 - c. He cannot please God - Rom 8:8; Ps 14:3
 - d. His good works are worthless - Isa 64:6
 - e. He has no hope - Eph 2:12; I Thess 4:13
 - f. He is without excuse - Rom 1:20; Rom 2:1

MAN'S CONDITION SUMMARIZED - WHAT IS MAN WITHOUT CHRIST LIKE?

1. Man is a sinner by nature. He is a slave to sin and cannot free himself from its power.
2. Man is a child of Satan. He is a prisoner to Satan's desires.
3. Man without Christ defiantly seeks his own way as an enemy of God. He stands guilty and condemned before God and is under God's wrath.
4. Man is spiritually dead, blinded by Satanic darkness so he cannot understand spiritual truths. He is inwardly wicked and cannot trust his defiled conscience for guidance.
5. Man is lost, with no hope of ever pleasing God. Any good works he may try to do are utterly worthless in God's eyes. He refuses to seek God, even though God has made spiritual light available to him. This makes him without excuse before God's judgment.
6. **SCRIPTURAL SUMMARY:** Rom 11:32 -- Man is "concluded" (boxed in) in unbelief. He has no way out, and he desires no way out.
7. **THEOLOGICAL SUMMARY:** Man is totally depraved. This does not mean that he is as bad as he can be, but that he is as bad off as he can be. Every area of his being has been ruined by sin, and he does not want to do anything about it.

2. THE ORIGIN OF SIN

A. The Origin Of Sin In The Universe

1. God is not the author of sin - Jas 1:13; Deut 32:4
2. Sin began with Satan - Ezek 28:14-15

B. The Origin Of Sin In Humanity

* Sin was introduced to the human race by Adam and Eve - Gen 3

C. The Origin Of Sin In An Individual Life

1. Every human is born with a sin nature - Ps 51:5
* "I am not a sinner because I sin; I sin because I am a sinner!"
2. Every accountable human chooses to sin - Rom 3:10-12

3. THE PENALTY FOR SIN

A. The Penalty Of Death - Rom 6:23

B. The Penalty Of Natural Results - Gal 6:7-8

C. The Penalty Of Chastisement For The Believer - Heb 12:5-11

D. The Penalty Of Eternal Punishment For The Lost - II Thess 1:9; Rev 20:6, 14-15

4. THE CHRISTIAN AND SIN

A. The Reality Of Sin In The Christian's Life - I Jn 1:8-2:1

1. Christians still have a sin nature - 1:8; cf. Rom 7:14-24

2. Christians still commit acts of sin - 1:10; 2:1
3. God desires Christians to be victorious over sin - 2:1; Rom 6:1-2

B. What The Christian Loses When He Sins

1. His fellowship with God - I Jn 1:6
 - * Communion with God; Contentment; Ability to worship
2. His fellowship with other believers - I Jn 1:7
 - * Encouragement; Opportunities to grow; True friendships; Sense of togetherness; Loving rebuke & exhortation
3. His joy - I Jn 1:4; Jn 15:10-11; Ps 51:8, 12
 - * He will feel hollow & empty
4. His peace - Ps 51:10; Php 4:9; II Pet 2:7-8
 - * He will experience guilt & lose his contentment
5. His pure conscience (sense of sin) - Gen 19:15-16; Acts 24:16; I Tim 1:5, 19
6. God's guidance - Rom 12:1-2
7. God's power in his life - Acts 1:8; Eph 5:18; Eph 4:30; I Thess 5:19
8. The assurance of his salvation - I Jn 3:4-10; I Jn 5:4-5
 - * NOTE: Eternal security and the assurance of salvation are NOT the same!
9. The assurance of answered prayer - Ps 66:18; Isa 59:1-2
10. His testimony and influence - Ps 51:13; Gen 19:6-9, 12-14
11. He may lose his family - Gen 19:14, 26, 32
12. Eternal rewards - Eph 6:7-8; Rev 22:12; I Cor 3:11-15; II Cor 5:9-11

C. What The Christian Gains When He Sins

1. God's chastening - Col 3:25; Heb 12:5-11
2. A premature death becomes possible - I Cor 11:29-30; I Jn 5:16-17; Acts 5:1-11
3. Shame at Christ's return - I Jn 2:28

D. How The Christian Should Deal With Sin

1. Reckon himself dead to sin - Rom 6
2. Claim God's victory and look for the way of escape - I Cor 10:13
3. Rely on the power of the Holy Spirit - Gal 5:16
4. When we sin, confess it and forsake it - I Jn 1:9; Pr 28:30