

# HUMANITY

Article 3

### **III. Man**

Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice.

By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin.

Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God.

The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.

*Genesis 1:26-30; 2:5,7,18-22; 3; 9:6; Psalms 1; 8:3-6; 32:1-5; 51:5; Isaiah 6:5; Jeremiah 17:5; Matthew 16:26; Acts 17:26-31; Romans 1:19-32; 3:10-18,23; 5:6,12,19; 6:6; 7:14-25; 8:14-18,29; 1 Corinthians 1:21-31; 15:19,21-22; Ephesians 2:1-22; Colossians 1:21-22; 3:9-11.*

# HUMANITY—The Crown of Creation

“And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.”

(Genesis 2:7)

Humans are not the product of evolution. Our existence, according to the Bible, is not the result of blind chance and naturalistic process.

Instead, God created humanity—male and female.

## Implications of Evolution:

1. God is unnecessary.
2. God is not intricately and providentially involved in the experience of humans.
3. Evolution necessarily teaches racism, for some ethnicities must have evolved more and be superior to other groups, if evolution is true.



# Made in God's Image

“So God created man in His own image;  
in the image of God He created Him;  
male and female he created them”  
(Genesis 1:27).

Being created in the image of God “refers to our spiritual capacity and ability to fellowship with God” (p. 61). We are moral creatures who can know and worship God.

We are not merely another kind of animal existing with all other animals on this planet. We are crowned with dignity and honor, because we are made in His image.

## VAST IMPLICATIONS:

1. We are morally accountable to God (Revelation 20:12).
2. Male and female are of equal value and of equal importance in this world. Both are made in the image of God. Animals and humans are not equal in any way. Humans are meant to rule over them; not elevate them to a human-like status (Genesis 1:28).

3. All humans descend from Adam, so all ethnicities are of equal worth. “He has made from one blood every nation of men” (Acts 17:26).  
Therefore, racism is evil and an attack on our common Creator!
4. The poor, the orphan, the widow, and foreigners are to be loved and treated with dignity (Deuteronomy 10:17-19).

5. Transgender procedures are rebellion against God (Psalm 139:13-14). (cf. p. 62 in your book.)
6. Homosexuality is not an ethnicity or race of people. It is chosen rebellion against the Lord's design for human relationships (Leviticus 18:22-23; Matthew 19:14; 1 Corinthians 6:9).

7. Heterosexual immorality is degrading to humanity, and is also dishonoring to God (1 Corinthians 6:18-20).
8. The unborn are not owned by their mothers, and therefore must not be disposed of as if they were merely property. God has a plan for every unborn child, even those (especially those?) with disabilities (Psalm 139:14-16; Exodus 4:10-12).

# The Fall of Humanity

“...for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die” (Genesis 3:17).

When Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit, they disobeyed God and rebelled against His command (p. 62).

“The consequences of their sin was truly catastrophic. With sin came sickness and death, and the earth itself became hostile to humanity.

The biblical account is no myth. It is the historical account of humanity’s fall from innocence into sin” (p. 62).



What did God mean when He said to Adam and Eve, “For in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die” (Genesis 2:17)?

To what was God referring when He mentioned “death” here?

## Natural Death

“For dust you are, and to dust you shall return” (Genesis 3:19).

This is the separation of the soul from the body. This part did not happen immediately, for “death” has other immediate aspects to it.

# Spiritual Death

This spiritual death consists of:

1. The death of the soul.
2. A corrupt nature.

(See JP Boyce's *Abstract of Systematic Theology*, pp. 242ff).

The death of the soul (separation)...

- a. Alienation from God—*alienated from the life of God...because of the blindness of heart* (Eph. 4:18).
- b. Loss of God's acceptance—*the wrath of God abides on him* (John 3:36).

## A corrupt nature...

- a. It is universal—*Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me* (Ps. 51:5).
- b. Every affection of the heart is corrupted—*who being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness* (Eph. 4:19).

- c. The corrupt nature does not destroy the freedom of the will.—*But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life* (John 5:40).
- d. The corrupt nature does make people unable to apprehend and love the things of God.—*But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God* (1Cor. 2:14).

- e. Equally possessed, but not equally expressed—Though all people are hopelessly corrupt in heart, not all express this corruption to the same degree.
- f. Since we are all corrupt, we cannot repent with godly sorrow, love Jesus, believe in Jesus on our own.—*When we were still without strength, Christ died for the ungodly* (Romans 5:6).

## Eternal Death

*But the cowardly, unbelieving...shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Revelation 21:9).*



## Application:

1. Humans are the special creation of God, made in His image.
2. Humanity has fallen into a sinful and corrupted condition.
3. Humans cannot and do not want to reconcile with God on His terms.
4. Adam is the representative of the human race; we need a new leader!