

# Theology 101

## Man

- I. His Creation
  - A. While God devoted much of the Creation Week to the natural world around us, the creation of man is set apart as something unique- Genesis 1:26-27
  - B. God's work of creating man was special in that:
    - 1. God breathed life (spiritual and not just physical) into man - Genesis 2:7
    - 2. God made man in His image - Genesis 1:27
    - 3. God made woman - Genesis 2:21-22
      - a) Note that this differs from animal life, where God makes male and female at once. God makes woman by a special act.
    - 4. God gave man a task - Genesis 2:15
    - 5. God gave man one command - Genesis 2:17
- II. His Fall
  - A. Man was created with a capacity to choose good or evil
  - B. Satan deceived Eve into breaking God's commandment - Genesis 3:1-6
  - C. Adam *was not deceived*, but choose willingly to disobey God - I Timothy 2:14
  - D. Results of Man's Fall
    - 1. The Curse - Genesis 3:16-19
    - 2. A fallen nature that is passed down to all mankind - Romans 5:12
- III. His Nature
  - A. Man is a multifaceted being
    - 1. Man has essentially two parts to his nature (*dichotomy*), the physical and the spiritual - Genesis 2:7, II Corinthians 4:16
    - 2. The physical is temporal, but the spiritual is continuing forever - Ecclesiastes 12:7
    - 3. Some further divide man in a *trichotomy* (I Thessalonians 5:23):
      - a) Body - the physical part of man - bones, muscles, appearance, etc.
      - b) Soul - the natural part of man - reason, conscience, imagination, etc.
      - c) Spirit - the spiritual part of man - faith, worship, prayer, etc.
    - 4. To be honest, I've never completely grasped the concept of man as trichotomy. It is largely based on the separate uses of *soul* and *spirit* (see Hebrews 4:12), but there are inconsistencies in other uses. Man is a complex being created by an infinite God.
  - B. Man is a fallen, corrupted being
    - 1. Man is born with a nature that is bent toward sin and imperfection - Romans 3:23, 5:12
    - 2. While certain aspects of man's unfallen, perfect nature exist, they are corrupted by man's fallen nature - Romans 7:14-25.
- IV. His Destiny
  - A. Because of sin and the Fall, man is doomed to die - Romans 5:12
  - B. This death is not just physical, but spiritual also. - Revelation 20:11-14
  - C. THEREFORE, mankind needs a Savior! - Romans 5:8
  - D. Through Christ, man can change his destiny and have eternal life with God - John 3:16