

Lesson 7 – Man

Key Verse: Genesis 1:27

“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.”

Overview

One of the most important questions people should ask is, “Who am I and why do I exist?” However, with the busyness of life, most people don’t stop to ponder this question. In biblical theology the study of man is called anthropology. While secular institutions offer courses on anthropology, those courses address this topic from a man-centered perspective. In order to properly understand man, we must look at it from a God-centered perspective. In this study, we will answer the question above from God’s perspective

The Creation of Man

1. Genesis 1:23–26. On what day did God create man? The sixth day
2. Genesis 2:7. How did God created Adam? From the dust of the ground
 - a. What did God give Adam? The breath of life
3. Genesis 2:21–22. How did God create Eve? She was fashioned from Adam’s rib
4. Genesis 5:2. What name did God give to Adam and Eve? “Man”

“Man is represented as standing at the apex of all the created orders. He is crowned as king of the lower creation, and is given dominion overall the inferior creatures.”

—Louis Berkhof, *Systematic Theology*, pg. 183

Image and Likeness

1. Genesis 1:26. What did man take on in creation? The image and likeness of God.
 - a. Image: A copy; representation
 - b. Likeness: Pattern; shape; form
2. Genesis 2:25. What was man’s condition after God created them? They were not ashamed.

3. Genesis 3:7–8. What did Adam and Eve do after the fall? They were ashamed and hid from God.
4. Genesis 9:6. What did man keep after the fall? The image of God.
5. James 3:8–10. What did man keep after the fall? The likeness of God.

Image Restored

1. Romans 8:29. Why did God predestine believers? To be conformed to the image of Christ.
2. 2 Corinthians 3:18. When does the transformation to the image of Christ begin? At salvation.
3. 1 John 3:2. When will our transformation be complete? When Christ appears.

Human Constitution

1. Genesis 2:23. What does mankind consist of? Flesh and bones
2. Acts 7:59. What did Stephen ask Jesus to receive? His spirit.
3. Ecclesiastes 12:7. What does this verse reveal about man? He is dust and spirit.
4. James 2:26. What does James say are the two parts of man? Body and spirit.
5. Matthew 10:28. What did Jesus say about man? He has both soul and body.
6. Luke 10:27. How did Jesus refer to the immaterial part of man? Heart, soul, strength, and mind
7. What do we conclude about “spirit” and “soul”? They are used interchangeably.

**“Soul’ and ‘spirit’ are used interchangeably in Scripture,
and both terms indicate similar functions in relating with God, other people, and nature.”**
—“Three Views of the Human Constitution”, John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, eds., *Biblical Doctrines*, pg. 422

Man’s Responsibility

1. Genesis 1:28. What is the kingdom mandate? To fill, subdue, and rule the earth
2. Genesis 9:1–2. What did God reiterate to Noah? The kingdom mandate.

**“Man is created to reign in a manner that demonstrates his lordship,
his dominion (by force if necessary) over all creation.”**

—Eugene H. Merrill

When does life begin?

1. Job 3:3. When did Job say he became a “man-child”? At conception
2. Exodus 21:22–25. What is the penalty at the end of verse 23? “life for life”
3. Luke 1:44. What does Elizabeth say about her baby in the womb? He leaped for joy.

Why were we Created?

1. Isaiah 43:6–7. Why has God created us? For His glory.
2. Ephesians 1: 11–12. What does this verse reveal about why God has predestined us? We were saved “by His will, to hope in Christ, to the praise of His glory.”
3. 1 Corinthians 10:31. What does this verse say we are to do? Do all things to the glory of God.

**“Giving God glory will give our lives purpose and meaning;
it will give us joy in our life that we all long for.”**

— Wayne Grudem, *Christians Beliefs*, pg. 58

Application

1. What are specific examples of ways you can fulfill your God-given purpose?
2. How does being created in God’s image affect your view of self and others?
3. What areas of your life do you need to change to bring God glory?