

# Intro to Theology

Assemblies of God; Indiana School of Ministry

Level 1 Class

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## 2 Theological Anthropology

### Before the fall

*What the Bible offers is not a “works contract,” but a covenant of vocation. The vocation in question is that of being a genuine human being, with genuinely human tasks to perform as part of the Creator’s purpose for his world. The main task of this vocation is “image-bearing,” reflecting the Creator’s wise stewardship into the world and reflecting the praises of all creation back to its maker. Those who do so are the “royal priesthood,” the “kingdom of priests,” the people who are called to stand at the dangerous but exhilarating point where heaven and earth meet.*

N.T. Wright

### The Fall

According to Dr. Vernon Purdy, there are two possible solutions to the problem of God’s perfect creation being corrupted:

1. Ontological Problem

A. A finite God?

B. A Fiendish God?

2. Moral Problem

**James 1:13 When tempted, no one should say...**

**“...and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one”**

*“God did permit, however, for reasons best known to Him, the possibility of moral failure. Freedom of the will is an important corollary of rational personality. Moral action is what determines character. And this involves a terrible risk, the risk of failure. God, in providing for truly free moral decisions in the angels and human beings He created, had to allow for the possibility of failure in some of his creatures. Without that possibility there would not be genuine freedom or true personality.”*  
Horton & Menzies ps 87-88.

Result of the fall

*“To be human is to love, and it is what we love that defines who we are. Our (ultimate) love is constitutive of our identity.”* James K. A. Smith

*“You have made us for yourself, and our hearts will remain restless until they find rest in you.”*  
St. Augustine

Dichotomy vs Trichotomy?

Calvinism vs Arminianism?