

## ***The Plight and the Problem of Man – Transformed, Session 1***

### ***I. People Before the Fall***

#### **A. People as a creation of God.**

1. People are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27).
2. People have an “inner” and “outer” nature (Genesis 2:7; 2 Corinthians 4:16).
  - a. The inner man is described by the terms *spirit* (Acts 7:59; Matthew 26:41; John 4:23-24) and *soul* (1 Peter 2:11; Hebrews 6:19, 10:39).
  - b. The outer man is described by the terms *flesh* (Colossians 2:5; Matthew 26:41; Galatians 5:16-17) and *body* (Romans 6:6; 8:13; 1 Corinthians 6:13; 19-20).

#### **B. People in their original relation to God.**

1. Originally, people had fellowship with God (Genesis 3:8).
2. Originally, people enjoyed an unspoiled relationship between the Creator and the creature (Genesis 1:28, Genesis 2:19, Genesis 2:21-22).
3. Originally, people were not subject to death (Genesis 2:15-17).

#### **C. People in relation to nature before the Fall.**

1. People were more a part of the created order before the Fall (Genesis 2:19-20).
2. God gave to man a mandate to take dominion over nature (Genesis 1:26-31; 2:19-20).

### ***II. People after the Fall***

#### **A. The immediate effects of the Fall.**

1. The human race fell because of Adam’s sin (Genesis 3:6, 2 Corinthians 11:3; 1 Timothy 2:14, Romans 5:12, 15, 17-19).
2. After the Fall, people became aware of their nakedness and shame (Genesis 3:7, Hebrews 4:13, Hosea 2:3, Micah 1:11, and Revelation 16:15).
3. People experienced spiritual death (Genesis 2:17, Genesis 3:8-10).
4. People rejected the truth (Genesis 3:11-12).
5. People became bound to physical death; the principle of death began working in Adam immediately (Genesis 3:22).

6. Sin was passed on from one generation to the next (Genesis 4 - Revelation 22).

### **B. Evidence of the fallen spiritual state of people.**

1. The universal presence of sin and death (Romans 5:12; 3:23) proves our inherited state as descendants of Adam.

2. People have a hatred of God (Romans 1:28-31, Colossians 2:9, Mark 15:12-14).

3. People have a hatred of truth (Romans 1:18).

4. People are spiritually blind (2 Corinthians 4:3-4).

5. People are in slavery to sin (Romans 6:17).

6. People love spiritual and moral darkness (John 3:19-20).

7. People are lost (Matthew 18:11).

8. People experience spiritual death and submission to Satan and are by nature destined for wrath (Ephesians 2:1-3, 5; Colossians 2:11-13).

9. The idea of total depravity.

### **C. God's response to the sinful condition of man.**

1. God does not take joy in the condemnation of man (Ezekiel 33:11; 2 Peter 3:9).

2. God has provided a way of salvation for depraved man (Romans 5:6-11; Acts 2:36-39; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11).

a. In the salvation of man, God does more than return man to Adam's state of innocence. It was never said of Adam:

- That God Personally indwelt him (Colossians 1:27)
- That he was the righteousness of God in Jesus (2 Corinthians 5:21)
- That he was a partaker of the Divine nature (2 Peter 1:4)
- That he was a fellow worker with God (1 Corinthians 3:9; 2 Corinthians 6:1)
- That he was a son of God by adoption (Romans 8:15, Ephesians 1:5).

b. All this belongs to the believer. In Jesus, the goal is not to get back to Adam; in Jesus we gain more than we ever lost in Adam. Redeemed man is greater than innocent man.

3. The love and concern of God for every individual was shown powerfully by Jesus (a few examples: Mark 10:13-16, Mark 7:24-30; Luke 7:1-10, Luke 17:11-19).