



## **CHURCH ALIVE HOME BIBLE STUDY**

### **Lesson 4 -The Creation, Fall and Redemption of Man**

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Understanding these fundamental truths of man's creation, purpose and identity, is crucial for us today in a world of shifting values and conflicting viewpoints. It helps counteract modern identity crises. If God's Word says it – I believe it! The creation of man is central to our Christian beliefs as it ties directly to God's identity and His work. It affirms our faith in a world that often questions the origin and significance of humans.

*1 Peter 3:15 – “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and **always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you**, with meekness and fear,<sup>16</sup> having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.”*

#### **A. THE CREATION OF MAN:**

Genesis 1:1 – “In the beginning God **created** the heavens and the earth.” Isaiah 45:18 says that He **created** the earth to be inhabited by man. In Genesis 1:26, 27 God said, “*Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...*” So God **created** man in His *own* image; in the image of God, He created him; **male and female** He created them.

**The Hebrew word for “create” is “bara.”** It suggests that creating is similar to sculpturing, and describes bringing into existence and creating by fashioning existing matter into something new, as God did in creating man out of dust from the ground. (WORD WEALTH Genesis 1:1 NKJV) The Hebrew verb “**bara**” is **only ever used with God. ONLY GOD CAN CREATE!**

*Col 1:16* tells us that all things were “*created by Him (Jesus Christ) and through Him and for Him.*”

In *Exodus 25:70* God told Moses to “*make Me a sanctuary that I may dwell among you.*” **We are now the temple of God.** “*Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? (1 Corinthians 3:16). God by His Spirit dwells in us!*”

*The Hebrew word for man is “adam.” “Man”* here means *humanness* - It has nothing to do with maleness and everything to do with humanness – it includes both male and female.

**God created man a 3-part being: SPIRIT, SOUL and BODY.** In 1 Thess 5:23 Paul prays that our “*whole spirit, soul and body* be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

*Let's look at 2:17 ... “God formed man (BODY) out of the dust of the ground, and **breathed into his nostrils the breath of life (SPIRIT)**; and man became a living being (SOUL)”*

The **BODY** is just the house for the Spirit – our temporary dwelling place! The body was made from the dust of the earth. The body operates by the 5 senses: hearing, seeing, tasting, touching and smelling.

The **SOUL** is made up of your mind, will and emotions. (This is what gives us all the trouble) Adam's soul was pure.

The **SPIRIT** – **GOD IS SPIRIT!** (John 4:24) Adam's spirit was made in the image and likeness of God.

When God breathed into Adam he became a living Spirit. Life flowed into Adam. Adam's spirit was created to rule over the soul and the body. He was given God's power, ability, wealth and dominion. They could have lived in this state forever.

**LIFE APPLICATION:** *Let's see how these three parts relate to us...*

We are first of all spirit! It's with our spirit that we communicate with God. **This is the real you!** It is the spirit that gives life. This is what makes us different from all other creatures. **Our human spirit is our inmost being** - the deepest part of us, possessing God-consciousness. This is where we communicate with God. (John 4:24; Romans 1:9) God didn't make any other creature with a spirit; this is what makes human beings unique. *"You created my inmost being."* (Psalm 139:13 NIV).

**The soul is our very self**, (Matt.16:26; Luke (12:16-21) a medium between our spirit and body. Our soul is our personality, who we are. With our soul we think, reason, consider, remember and wonder. It is here we experience emotions like love, happiness, peace, sorrow, anger, guilt, compassion.

**The body is the visible, external part of us**, that we may contact the material world by our five senses; sight, hearing, smell, taste and feeling.

## **B. THE ORIGIN OF SIN:**

**Where did sin begin?** Sin began in Lucifer's heart. (Ez. 28:17) Let's look briefly at what the Bible tells us about Lucifer: (Ezekiel 28)... He was a created angel named Lucifer - *an "anointed cherub that covers"* (v.14). He was the highest angel under God and most powerful. *"You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, until till iniquity was found in you."* (V. 15) *"Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty. You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor..."* (v. 17)

**In Isaiah 14:12-15** - Lucifer said *"I will"* 5 times. Satan's fall is attributed to PRIDE and SELF-WILL. He wanted to remove God's rule and replace it with his own. **HE WANTED TO BE GOD!** God saw what was in his heart and cast him down from his exalted position. *"You shall be brought down to Sheol to the lowest depths of the Pit."* (V.15) t God has already determined satan's destiny. (Rev 20:10)

**Satan set up a kingdom of darkness** - a kingdom of lies, wickedness and hate. *"Satan comes to rob, kill and destroy"* (John 10:10a), opposed to God's Kingdom. **God's Kingdom is a Kingdom of light, truth, righteousness and love.** Jesus comes that we might *"have life and have it more abundantly."* (John 10:10 b)

**LIFE APPLICATION:** Anyone who is not saved is in satan's kingdom. Satan wants to keep people from receiving Christ. 2 Cor. 4:4 says, *"He blinds their eyes."* He ties to deceive us into believing the Bible is not the word of God. He deceives people into believing that he (satan) is not real - that hell is not real.

**PRAY:** Thank God for delivering us from the dominion of darkness and bringing us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. (Colossians 1:13,14)

## C. THE FALL OF MAN

Gen. 2: 8 *"The Lord planted a garden in Eden and there He put the man whom He had formed...**The tree of life** was also in the garden and **the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.**"*

Gen. 2:16,17 - *"Of every tree in the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."*

If you are not familiar with the temptation of Adam and Eve please read Genesis 3 and see how Adam came under the power of Satan. Tempted by the serpent they disobeyed God's command and ate of the *Tree of the knowledge of Good and Evil*.

Adam was deceived and set his will against God. His disobedience brought shame, fear and separation from God. (3:8). They were expelled from the Garden and toil, suffering and death. Sin brought the whole human race into the kingdom of darkness. When Adam sinned, **he lost his dominion**. (He gave it away!)

**IMPORTANT NOTE!** It is important to remember that **God didn't give up His dominion His over creation, but rather He extended His grace through Jesus Christ , allowing for redemption and forgiveness for all who believe.**

**LIFE APPLICATION:** The "*tree of the knowledge of good and evil*" speaks of **INDEPENDENCE FROM GOD**. IT BRINGS DEATH! It distracts us from the One who is the source of life - JESUS! It is the temptation to go our own way either by out and out corruption or by relying upon our good works. It causes us to focus our attention upon ourselves - instead of depending upon God we are driven to one of two things - GOOD or EVIL!

EVIL we understand. It's corruption.

GOOD! **What is bad about good?** Our good works! Good deeds: prayer, tithing, church attendance, Bible study, are good but in themselves they cannot produce life. Only Jesus can change man's heart! It was not the evil nature of the tree that deceived Eve, but the good.

**LIFE APPLICATION:** This is a continual struggle throughout the word of God and in the life of every Christian. We cannot bring forth fruit that is life while partaking of "*the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.*" A tree only produces after its own kind. We need to eat of the fruit only produced by the life of Jesus!

*Remember how Satan tried to get Jesus to disobey God! 3 times he tempted Him to act in self - will.*

**What weapon did Jesus use? The Word of God.** Jesus was victorious because He delighted to do God's will! **By His obedience to the Father's will He made it possible for us all to walk victoriously!**

Like Jesus our response must be *"Not My will, but Yours be done."* (Luke 22:42) *"My meat is to do the will of the Father who sent Me?"* (John 4:34;)

**WE NEED TO HIDE THE WORD OF GOD IN OUR HEARTS SO WE DO NOT SIN AGAINST HIM!** (Psalm 119:11)

## D. THE RESULT OF SIN ON THE HUMAN RACE:

1. **Adam's spirit was separated from God's Spirit** - cut off from the life of God. The immediate result was **spiritual death**. When Adam sinned it affected his spirit, soul and body. Adam had been a God centered man; now a sinner under the power of darkness.

They were banished from the Garden and the presence of God – so that they would not eat of the “Tree of Life” and live forever in their sin. (3:22) Before God banished them from the garden He provided them with a covering for sin. *“Except by the shedding of blood there is no remission for sin.”* (Heb. 9:22) This was the first blood sacrifice for sin. **We see God’s grace and justice revealed here.** God can never overlook sin so He provided a blood covering for them.

2. **Adam’s soul was now no longer pure.** Adam now had a sinful nature. Adam and Eve were now sin conscious – aware that they were naked. SELF was upon the throne.

3. **Adam was now subject to physical death.** Sin entered the entire human race. EVERY MAN BORN INTO THE HUMAN RACE WAS CUT OFF FROM THE LIFE OF GOD. After Adam’s sin every man was conceived in sin. Every man was brought under the power of sin - condemned to death. (Rom. 5:12, 19)

All who are born into the human race are said to be *“In Adam.”* (1 Cor 15:22) That means to share in all Adam was and all he did. *“For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.”* He is separated from the life of God. (Gen. 2:17)

- He is in the kingdom of darkness...” (John 8:44) He is a sinner with a sinful nature. (Rom. 5:19) *“For by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man’s obedience many will be made righteous.”* He is under the power of sin. (John 3:34) *“Whoever commits sin is a slave of sin.”*
- He is condemned to death. *“By one man’s offence death reigned.”* Rom. 5:17; Rom 5:12

**LIFE APPLICATION:** This sinful nature we are born with is also spoken of in the Word of God as *“the old man.”* The “old man,” our sinful nature, is all we acquired by our natural birth from Adam. By Noah’s day God was sorry He had ever made man. **We need to see all people as fallen people of God.** There is a God factor in all of us. God does not show partiality. God’s grace is available to everyone!

## **E. GOD’S PLAN OF REDEMPTION**

We could do nothing to save ourselves. We cannot take ourselves out of Adam’s race by “doing good.”

GOD HAD TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT! *“The Father has sent the Son as the Savior of the world.”* (1John 4:14)

In Genesis 3:15 we have the first promise of redemption! *“I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her SEED! “He shall bruise your head and you shall bruise His heel.”* Through Jesus Christ true life would be restored to man. It’s a spiritual seed – sown by the Holy Spirit. Every man can receive Him.

**Romans 5:19** - *“By one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so **by the obedience of One many shall be made righteous.**”*

A Redeemer would come who would make it possible to eat of the “Tree of Life.” **JESUS IS THE TREE OF LIFE!** Jesus was the only one who could restore man’s fellowship with God. **God Himself became a man.** (John 1:1) *“In the beginning was the Word, the Word was with God and the Word was God.”*

Jesus became sin for us. He bore the sins of the whole world on the cross. (2 Cor. 5:21) *“For He who knew no sin, became sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”* Through Jesus’ death and resurrection man’s fellowship with God was restored.

**LIFE APPLICATION:** **Salvation is a life time experience** - not a single experience. Conversion is a process of converting the whole man to Jesus Christ. When we stop converting our lives to Jesus Christ, we stop maturing. We get bored and restless. There is always more fulfillment to find in Jesus!

## F. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE "IN CHRIST"?

*"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive." (1 Corinthians 15:22)*

To be "**IN CHRIST**" God takes us out of Adam and puts us "in Christ". Jesus Christ through His death and resurrection has delivered us from the kingdom of darkness and the power of sin. The only way we can be "**in Christ**" is to be "*born again*" - or born from above. (John 3:3) We must have a spiritual birth to enter the Kingdom of God, just as we must have a physical birth to enter the natural world. The Kingdom of God is a spiritual kingdom and God by His spirit makes His entrance into man through man's spirit. (Rom. 5:19)

**To be "in Christ" means to share in all Christ is and has done for us.**

*"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation: old things have passed away; behold all things have become new..." (2 Cor. 5:17)*

*"By one man's disobedience many were made sin, **so by the obedience of One many shall be made righteous.**" (Romans 5:19)*

By His death and resurrection, the Lord Jesus made it possible for all men to come out of Adam's sinful race and become a member of God's family and enter into the Kingdom of God.

*"...Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the **washing of REGENERATION and renewing of the Holy Spirit.**" (Titus 3:5)*

**LIFE APPLICATION:** Satan convinced Adam and Eve that they could be God-like on their own -that they could be righteous on their own - independent of God! Adam exchanged the truth of God for the lie! He stepped out of dependence upon God into independence -THAT'S WHAT SIN IS!

God, our Creator, is the only source and sustainer of life. Our **spiritual new birth** is when our spirits are made alive. It is called REGENERATION. It's instantaneous! It comes through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and repentance. Being born again **is only the first step in our salvation experience!** Conversion continues from that point on! We must let Him fill our mind will and emotions. We must let Him fill every area of our lives! We must allow the spirit man to dominate the body and soul. It is an ongoing process. (Will at more in another lesson.)

**Let's make this declaration from Galatians 2:20...**

*"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."*

*Let's sing... I'm a new creation, I'm a brand-new man; Old things are passed away, I'm born again.  
More than a conqueror that's what I am. I'm a new creation, I'm a brand-new man!*

~ David Ingles

**PRAY:** Father, I thank You for the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who conquered death once and for all and for the resurrection power that resides within me, enabling me to live a life that glorifies You. Help me to lay hold of the life you have given me through Christ. Help me to walk boldly in the light of His resurrection and the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.