

Article 3: The Human Condition

We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image,

- Gen. 1:26-27 – “²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” ²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.”
- Gen. 5:1 – “⁵ This is the book of the generations of Adam. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God.”
- Gen. 9:6 – “⁶ “Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.”
- 1 Cor. 11:7 – “⁷ For a man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God, but woman is the glory of man.”
- Col. 3:10 – “¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.”
- James 3:9 – “⁹ With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God.”

but they sinned when tempted by Satan.

- Gen. 3:1-6 – “Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?” ² And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest

you die.’ ” ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.”

- Jn. 8:44 – “⁴⁴ You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”
- Rom. 5:12-14 – “¹² Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— ¹³ for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. ¹⁴ Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.”
- Rom. 16:20 – “²⁰ The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.”
- 2 Cor. 11:3 – “³ But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.”
- 1 Tim. 2:13-14 – “¹³ For Adam was formed first, then Eve; ¹⁴ and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.”

In union with Adam,

- Job 14:4 – “⁴ Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean?”
- There is not one.”
- Ps. 51:5 – “⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
- and in sin did my mother conceive me.”
- Jn. 3:6 – “⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.”
- Rom. 3:12 – “¹² All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.”
- Rom. 5:12-14 – “¹² Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— ¹³ for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. ¹⁴ Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.”
- 1 Cor. 15:22a – “²² For as in Adam all die...”
- 1 Jn. 1:8 – “⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”

human beings are sinners by nature and by choice,

- Gen. 6:5 – “⁵ The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”
- Jer. 17:9 – “⁹ The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?”
- Isa. 6:5 – “⁵ And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for

my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!””

- Rom. 5:15 – “¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man’s trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many.”
- Rom. 8:5-8 – “⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸ Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.”
- Eph. 2:1-2 – “And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience”
- Eph. 4:17-19 – “¹⁷ Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. ¹⁸ They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. ¹⁹ They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.”

alienated from God,

- Rom. 5:10 – “¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.”

and under His wrath.

- Rom. 1:18 – “¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.”
- Rom. 2:5 – “⁵ But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God’s righteous judgment will be revealed.”
- Rom. 3:9-19 – “⁹ What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, ¹⁰ as it is written: “None is righteous, no, not one; ¹¹ no one understands; no one seeks for God. ¹² All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.” ¹³ “Their throat is an open grave; they use their tongues to deceive.” - “The venom of asps is under their lips.” ¹⁴ “Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness.” ¹⁵ “Their feet are swift to shed blood; ¹⁶ in their paths are ruin and misery, ¹⁷ and the way of peace they have not known.” ¹⁸ “There is no fear of God before their eyes.” ¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.”
- Rom. 3:23 – “²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
- Eph. 2:3 – “³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.”

Only through God’s saving work in Jesus Christ

- Act 4:12 – “¹² And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be

saved.”

- 1 Tim. 2:5 – “⁵ For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,”

can we be rescued,

- 1 Thess. 1:10 – “¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.”

reconciled

- Rom. 5:1-2 – “⁵ Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.”
- Rom. 5:10 – “¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.”
- Col. 1:20 – “²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.”

and renewed.

- Rom. 8:29 – “²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.”
- 2 Cor. 3:18 – “¹⁸ And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.”
- Eph. 4:24 – “²⁴ and to put on the new self, created after the likeness

of God in true righteousness and holiness.”

- Phil. 3:21 – “²¹ who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.”
- 1 Jn. 3:2 – “² Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.”