

# **Doctrine of Humanity**

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## I. Introduction.

- A. Man was originally created in the image of God, but he fell.
- B. All creation came by God's fiat. He created out of himself. (Genesis 1:3)

## II. What the image of God is.

- A. A moral conscientiousness. (Romans 2:14-15; Ecclesiastes 7:21)
- B. The ability to know and communicate with other people and God.
- C. God-given dominion over the rest of creation.
- D. We are like God in some ways and dissimilar from God in other ways. (Ezra 1; Isaiah 45)

## III. The partial loss of God's image. (Genesis 3)

- A. God took something that was neutral and gave mankind an occasion to obey or disobey.
- B. Adam entered into death both physically and spiritually. (Genesis 5:1-20; Ephesians 2:5)
- C. What happened to Adam happened to all of us because he was designated our representative. (Romans 5; Ephesians 2:1-3; Romans 6:1-8)
- D. From the Fall comes original sin. We sin because it is our nature to sin. (Psalm 51:5)
- E. Every part of us has been affected by sin. This is total depravity, and it is the penalty of Adam's sin.
  - A. When we trust in Christ, our guilt is forgiven.
  - B. We have not been altogether released from depravity though. There is residual depravity. (Galatians 5:17)

## IV. The constitution of man. The soul can be separated from the body. (Philippians 1:21)

## V. Questions and answers.

**Application questions:**

1. What is mankind's relationship to sin apart from Christ?

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2. What is the Christian's relationship to sin now? Explain.

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3. What active steps can you take to start dealing with sin in your life today?

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