# MAN AND SIN

# Class 1/13/24 Man and sin

Let me start by saying that I want to thank all of you for sticking around for class today and Id like to remind you the very reason why we come together ...and that is because God is worthy of our worship to Him and learning about Him is part of it. As the title says today we are going to look at what is man as in creation and also sin. We were not created because God was bored or lonely or didn't have any more Netflix shows to binge on. He did not need someone or something . But he still chose to create us, and we do bring him glory.

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God created us male and female in His own image to know Him,love Him,live with Him and glorify Him. And it is right that we who were created by God should live to His glory.

For of those of you that don't know I run the kids ministry or sometimes I guess the kids run me. But we have been using the new city catechism and one of the very first questions we learned about is this.

Slide 5 New city catechism question 1 read it

What is our only hope in life? That we are not our own but belong, body and soul, both in life and death, to God and to our Savior Jesus Christ

Romans 14:7–8

For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

This answer right here sums it up our hope in life is to glorify Him in everything we say and do as doing this we enjoy him and as David says "in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures for ever more" Psalms 16:11

This right here is a take away please understand and remember this Fulness of joy is found in knowing God and delighting in him. When we do this, we give him the glory he desires and that we long to give him. In the midst of this, we find God rejoicing over us with "gladness" and exulting over us with loud singing. Zepheniah 3:17 I encourage you to write down the verses and read them

## Slide Created in Gods image 6

Now what separates us from the rest of creation? What distinguishes us, what gives us our own uniqueness is that unlike the rest of it we are created in the image of God as we see in Genesis 1

And as creatures made in his image we are to be like him. Therefore the more we understand about God, the more we understand about our selves and the more we understand about ourselves the more we understand about God. You like that? is like we went full circle. We are moral creatures with an innate sense of right and wrong. This is a reflection of God's perfect sense of right and wrong.

Not only are we physical creatures we are also spiritual creatures.

I'm going to read a quote that some of you may know "With great power comes great responsibility" if Tony was in here he'd be very proud of me using a movie quote! But the saying stands true. As creatures made in God's image we are his representatives on earth and we have a great deal of responsibility.

Slide responsibility 7

- 1. Stewardship of Creation: One of the primary responsibilities of humans is to exercise stewardship over the earth. This involves caring for and managing God's creation responsibly, reflecting His authority and creativity.
- 2. Moral Responsibility: Being made in God's image implies a moral dimension to human existence. Individuals are called to make ethical choices, reflecting God's righteousness and justice in their interactions with others and the world.
- 3. Relational Responsibilities: Humans are designed for relationships, both with God and with one another. This includes fostering love, respect, and community, as well as living in harmony with others as a reflection of God's relational nature.
- 4. Worship and Service: Worshiping God is central to the human experience. This responsibility encompasses both personal devotion and corporate worship, highlighting the importance of acknowledging God's sovereignty and giving Him glory in all aspects of life.
- 5. Reflecting God's Character: As image-bearers, humans are called to reflect God's character in their actions and attitudes. This includes exhibiting qualities such as love, kindness, and mercy, which demonstrate the nature of God to the world.

Slide 8 questions

Now let's take a few minutes to go through some questions.

PART 2

<u>Slide 9</u> What is sin?

Sin is rejecting or ignoring God in the world he created, rebelling against him by living without reference to him, not being or doing what he requires in his law—resulting in our death and the disintegration of all creation.

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Sin affects everyone of us regardless of age, race group or biological sex. It taints every nation and tribe. 1 John 1:8 says "if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us". Therefore, all stand guilty before God. Since sin is complete contradiction to God he cannot sin, and we should never blame God for sin or think the he bears the responsibility for sin or that he initiates the sin. When Adam and Eve ate from the tree of knowledge they contradicted God's command. Neither God nor satan forced them to eat from it they did so willingly and thus willingly sinned against God. As a result Adams nature became sinful and it became something he naturally did therefore causing us to inherit a sinful nature, one that is naturally opposed to God and his moral law. On our own we are not able to do anything that pleases God. We lack any spiritual good in ourselves therefore unable to do spiritual good we are dead in our trespasses. From a human standpoint we may be able to do things that seem to be good, to God "all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment" Isaiah 64:6

Paul explains in romans 5:12 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned— And continuing in the chapter verse 19 For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

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Original Sin: The verse refers to Adam as "the one man" whose disobedience brought sin into the world. As a result, all humanity is affected by this original sin, leading to a sinful nature in every person ("the many were made sinners"). This concept is central to the doctrine of original sin, which teaches that Adam's fall has repercussions for all his descendants.

Christ's Obedience: The "one man" in the second part of the verse refers to Jesus Christ. His obedience to God culminating in His sacrificial death on the cross—provides the means for salvation. Just as Adam's disobedience brought sin, Christ's obedience leads to righteousness for those who believe ("the many will be made righteous").

Redemptive Parallel: The verse highlights a parallel between Adam and Christ, contrasting their roles in the history of salvation. While Adam introduced sin and death, Christ offers grace and life. This emphasizes the transformative power of Christ's work and the hope of redemption available to all.

God's work is perfect.

In Deuteronomy 32:4 it says

He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just.

A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he.

### Slide 12

God allows sin to exist as part of His sovereign plan, which ultimately serves to display His glory and justice. While sin is a result of humanity's free will and the fall of Adam and Eve, God's permissive will allows it to unfold within the framework of His divine sovereignty. This allowance brings about greater awareness of His holiness and grace, as it highlights the stark contrast between God's perfect nature and human sinfulness. Furthermore, through the redemption offered in Jesus Christ, God demonstrates His mercy and justice, ultimately using the reality of sin to achieve His greater purposes, including the glorification of Himself and the sanctification of His people. Here are some verses we can look at.

Romans 8:28: "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

This verse emphasizes that God orchestrates all events, including the presence of sin, for the good of His people.

Genesis 50:20: "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives."

Joseph's words highlight how God can use human intentions, including sinful actions, for His greater purpose.

Ephesians 1:11: "In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will." This verse points to God's sovereign control over all things, including sin.

<u>Slide 13</u>

2 Peter 3:9: "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

This verse illustrates God's patience, allowing sin to persist so that more may come to repentance.

Romans 5:20: "But where sin increased, grace increased all the more."

This passage underscores that God's grace abounds in response to sin, highlighting His mercy and the purpose behind allowing sin to exist.

As forgiving christians our sin does not affect our status with God however it does affect our fellowship with him and other believers as it can damage relationships. For God is grieved by our sin and it may result in discipline in our lives. This does not grant us a pass to sin freely and the person who does this actively probably was not in Christ to begin with. 1 John 3:9 "says no one born of God makes a practice of sinning"

On the contrary when a christian sins in 1 John 1:9 it says If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

<u>Slide 14</u>

We talked a lot about sin and I know from my own life that it is a very tough subject that we don't speak enough about. But before we go into the questions I want us to look at this verse from 1 corinthians 10:13

13 No temptation[c] has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted[d] beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted,[e] he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

Slide 15 questions

Questions for review and application

1. What is sin? How does It affect our lives and the world we live in?

2. Will Christians continue to sin? Why or why not?

3. What are some of the negative results of sin in the life of a christian? What should Christians do if they sin?

4.How was sin defeated? How does this make you feel? Take a moment to pray, telling God how his defeat of sin makes you feel.

Questions for review and application

1. Why were we created? What are some specific examples of ways we can fulfill the purpose for which we were created?

2. What does it mean to be created in God's image?

3. What are our responsibilities as God's image How does that affect your view of yourself?