



"GET A GRIP ON YOUR FAITH"



DOCTRINE #4: THE CREATION & FALL OF

Match the Following Theory with Its Definition

Here are 5 theories that either deny, misconceive, or minimize the nature of sin.

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| A. Atheism | <u> B </u> | The theory of life which maintains that the highest good in life is the securing of pleasure and avoidance of pain, that the first question to be asked is not, "Is it right?" but "Will it bring pleasure?" |
| B. Determinism | <u> D </u> | This theory says that sin is not a positive thing, but simply the absence of good. |
| C. Hedonism | <u> E </u> | Regards sin as the heritage of man's primitive animalism. |
| D. Christian Science | <u> B </u> | The theory which affirms that free will is a delusion and not a reality. |
| E. Evolution | <u> A </u> | In denying God, this theory also denies the existence of sin. |

Statement of Faith #4



We believe that man was created good and upright. However, man willfully sinned and thereby was subjected not only to physical death but also to spiritual death, which is separation from God. Read Gen. 1:26-27; 2:17; 3:6; Rom. 3:23; Rom. 5:12-19.

God Created Man

- According to Genesis 1 and 2, what did God create or do on each of the seven days?

Day 1: light: day and night, evening and morning (Gen. 1:1-5)

Day 2: sky (Gen. 1:6-8)

Day 3: land, sea, and vegetation (plants & trees) (Gen. 1:9-13)

Day 4: stars, sun, and moon. (Gen. 1:14-20)

Day 5: animals of the sea and sky (fish and birds) (Gen. 1:21-23)

Day 6: animals of the land and man (Gen. 1:24-31)

Day 7: God rested (Gen. 2:1-3)

- How did God feel about His creation? Note Gen. 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31.

Good!

- What did God do to man in Gen. 2:7? How does this make man different from animals?

God breathed into man the breath of life, and man became a living soul.

Man is a spiritual being ... animals are not! Animals don't have a soul.

- According to Gen. 2:21-23, why do we believe woman is just as much a spiritual creature as man?

She was not created as a separate being, but out of the same nature and material as man.

- In Gen. 1:26-27, what does it mean when it says we are created in God's image?

It does not mean we look like God on the outside. Note John 1:18. However, we do look like God on the inside.

1. We are thinking, creative beings.
2. We can communicate thoughts and ideas.
3. We have a personality and character capable of knowing, loving and serving.
4. We have a will and, thereby, the power of choice.
5. We are moral creatures and can know right from wrong.



The Serpent, Satan & Sin

- What did God forbid, and why? (Gen. 2:16-17)

Eating from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. He wanted Adam and Eve to prove their devotion to God.

- How is Satan described in Gen. 3:1 and John 8:44?

Crafty and subtle; the father of lies.

- What method did Satan use to tempt Eve?

Satan often uses the same tactics against us over and over again. One of his major tactics consists of a three-part formula:

1. LIES which create
2. DOUBT which brings
3. TEMPTATION to sin

- Compare 1 John 2:16 with Genesis 3:6. On the left side of the chart below, list the three things Eve liked about the tree of knowledge of good and evil. On the right-hand side, list the three categories of sin listed in 1 John 2:26. Notice the close relationship between the two sides.

The tree was ...

Genesis 3:6

1. Good for food
2. Pleasant to the eyes
3. To be desired to make one wise

1 John 2:16

1. Lust of the flesh
2. Lust of the eyes
3. Pride of life

- We can overcome temptation. Read God's promises found in 1 Cor. 10:13 and James 4:7.

- Temptation is not a sin, but giving into temptation is a sin. (James 1:14-15)

- What were Adam and Eve's immediate reactions to their sin?

- ▶ They made aprons (vs. 7)
- ▶ They hid from God (vs. 8)
- ▶ They deflected responsibility (vs. 12-13)

- God's Word instructs us to admit our sin and confess it. 1 John 1:9

- When man fell and sin entered the world, what two forms of death became a reality?

1. Physical death

This was not in God's original plan. Our bodies fail and we die. Nature has been contaminated as well. Every area of our human existence has been adversely affected by sin. Every person is born a sinner (Rom. 3:23).

2. Spiritual death

This means eternal separation from God. Read Rev. 20:14-15. "But glory to God He has provided a way for us to escape Spiritual death and that way is Jesus Christ our Lord."