

## Session 2 | Dr. Randy White | Genesis 3

Our world is a mess, and it starts with us! The Bible explains the mess of humanity in one short chapter. With the understanding of the human condition that comes from Genesis 3, we can properly interpret our world. Without this understanding, a person's view of God or society will be out of alignment.

For example:

- An evolutionist has either a fatalist or survivalist view of mankind.
- A socialist is an evolutionist with a survivalist and an optimistic view of mankind.
- A fascist has an evolutionist with a survivalist and a pessimistic view of *some* mankind.
- A psychologist rejects the fallen nature of mankind and builds a standard based on statistical averages of mankind.
- A Biblical Christian holds a *fallen* view of mankind, and that the *fall* must be overcome through *redemption* and is only fully overcome with the future *glorification* of mankind through the Redeemer.

1. The Fall introduced death into the world
  - o Genesis 2:17, 3:1-5, 19, 22-24
  - o Prior to the sin of Adam, death was unknown to creation.
    - Not “death” of renewal.
    - The real death of the entire organism.
  - o The need for death prior to Adam's sin is one of the most significant reasons to reject evolutionary ideas (if you accept the Bible as literal and true).
  - o Romans 5:12, Romans 6:23, James 1:15
2. The fall cursed the created order in such a way that it does not fully reveal God's character.
  - o Genesis 3:17-19, Romans 8:20-22

- o Gene 3:17, “In sorrow...” עִצְבוֹן [issabon] means “toil or hardship”
  - o Making conclusions of God's intent from a thorny, thistly world will cause one to draw the wrong conclusions about God and His purpose.
2. The fall brought a brokenness of relationship with God and with each other that only God can restore.
    - o Genesis 3:12 - the blame game begins
    - o Neither relationships with God nor with man are going to be perfect until the Second Adam reigns supreme.
  3. The fall brought about a fundamental shame in man's view of himself.
    - o Genesis 2:25, 3:7-11
    - o God provided a covering (3:21) for their bodies, but did not remove the shame.
    - o No psychological factor is larger than the shame factor.
    - o Shame has become the expected “default” for man: “have you no shame?”
  4. The fall forever established the role of men and women in marriage and society
    - o Genesis 3:16, 1 Cor. 11:3
    - o The headship of the man in the home was firmly place at the fall. It doesn't imply inferiority nor incompetence of leadership for women, but it is ignored with great consequences to the home and society.
  5. The fall created the first place of worship and glimpse of sacrifice.
    - o Genesis 3:23-24
    - o Later Cain and Abel would bring sacrifices, likely to this place of the flame and of the Chrubim.
    - o While we know nothing about the instruction behind the sacrifice, we do see worship, with a longing for acceptance, for the first time.
  6. The fall did not destroy man's fundamental obligation of dominion.
    - o Genesis 3:23