

## The Doctrine of Man

Who are we? What have we become? What can we be?

BICF ZGC Tuesday Training

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Who are we? – What does the world say?

### 1. People are Machines

- a. Man's Significance is measured by what he is able to do – utilitarian function.
- b. The purpose for health care is to maintain maximum productivity.
- c. When a person can no longer perform, they are not necessary to society.

### 2. People are Animals

- a. Difference between man and animals is merely degree, not qualitative.
- b. Human behavior can be shaped by control and training, like Pavlov's dogs.

### 3. People are Pawns in the Universe

- a. We are victims of blind forces in the universe far beyond our control; helpless.
- b. We must resign to these forces, political powers, economic control, disease, war.

What does the Bible say?

## I. The Bible's Creation Account

### A. Form of the Story: Kings/Kingdoms

	KINGS
	Man
KINGDOMS	6. Animals
3. Land and Plants	5. Birds and Fish
2. Sky and Sea	4. Sun and Moon
1. Light and darkness	

1. Not how, but Who -- focus on God, the Creator, not scientific explanation
2. Poetry, not Science: simple truth that the living God made the Universe.

### B. Truth of the Story

1. Witness of Other Scriptures (Deuteronomy 4:32; Psalm 148:5; Isaiah 41:20; Mark 13:19; Ephesians 3:9; Hebrews 12:27; Revelation 4:11)

2. Real Adam = Real Jesus (Romans 5:12:21; 1 Corinthians 15:22)

C. Biblical Applications from Creation

1. Man is the center of God's Creation. (Psalm 8:4-6; Hebrews 2:5-18)
  - a. Made in God's image: (Genesis 1:26, 27)
  - b. Universe is secondary: (Genesis 1:16)
  - c. Direct Creation of God: (Genesis 2:7)
2. Creation is starting point of evangelism
  - a. Assumed by the Jews (Acts 2: 14f f; 13:17 ff)
  - b. Explained to the Gentiles (Acts 14:15 ff; 17:5:17-25; Revel 21 & 22)
3. Salvation: is holistic not "soulish" (Isaiah 65:17 ff; Romans 1:20 ff)
4. Goodness of Creation , even after Fall (1 Timothy 4:4, 5, Titus, 1:15)  
Forms are neutral, but may be misused –

	Bad	Good
Sex	Romans 1:24	Ephesians 5:32
Food	Phil 3:19	1 Corinthians 10:31

5. Basis of Christian Hope and Power: Our God Made the World  
(Genesis 1; Isaiah 40:18-22; Acts 4:24; Revelation 4:11)
6. God's Sabbath Rest
  - a. Not because He was tired
  - b. God's Royal Enthronement
  - c. Entered Now through Christ—(Hebrews 4: 4-11)
7. Creation and Science
  - a. Genesis 1 is not scientific explanation
  - b. Genesis 1 is not exhaustive truth
  - c. God calls us to scientific exploration (Genesis 1:28)
  - d. Science, like any discipline, must obey God's Word
  - e. Christians must not surrender world of science to unbelievers

Human Constitution – We are Wonderfully Made

1. People are United in their Being
  - a. Bible address people as individuals, not separated parts; God created man and woman as complete and whole.
  - b. Physical, Spiritual, and Psychological well-being is often related.
  - c. Sin has affected every part of our being: Total Depravity  
(Genesis 6:5; 8-21; Jeremiah 17:9; Mark 7:20-23; Romans 3.10-20)
  - d. Christian ministry is wholistic – words and deeds – to meet people's total needs. (Romans 15:18, James 2.14-17)
  - e. Maturity is wholistic – people grow in body and spirit.

- (1 Samuel 2:26; Luke 1:80; Luke 2:52).
2. People are Complex in their being.
    - a. There is more than one 'part' to man's being. (Genesis 2:7, Luke 10:27)
    - b. Scripture puts priority on 'unseen part' of our being (Matthew 10:28; 16:26)
    - c. The Bible uses many different terms for this 'unseen part' – mind, heart, soul, spirit; and for the 'seen part' – flesh, body, person, man.
    - d. Every part of our being is to serve and praise God. (Psalm 103:1; Mark 12:30; Galatians 2:20; 1 Thessalonians 5:23)
    - e. Biblical 'death' is not an end, it is a 'separation' of our 'parts.' (Genesis 2:17//3:8; Luke 23:43; 2 Corinthians 5:8; Revelation 6:9-11)
    - f. The completion of salvation will bring restoration of our entire being – seen and unseen – into a new and perfect world. (Isaiah 65:17-25; Luke 22:16,18; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28; Revelation 22:1-5).

## Man and Woman

### I. God's Creation Design for Man and Woman

#### A. Man and Woman: Unique Among all of God's Creation

1. Image bearers of God (Genesis 1: 26, 27; 2:7)
  - a. Attributes: Like God Himself; Righteousness; Truth; Love, Holiness, etc. (cf. Ephesians 4:22-5:20)
  - b. Abilities: Unlike other creatures: Reason, Creativity, Adaptability, etc.
2. Rulers over God's world (Genesis 1:26; 2:5,15; Psalm 8)
  - a. Man is "King of the Beasts" on earth
  - b. Man rules as a servant under God, Vice Regent
3. Sexual Being (Genesis 1:27)
  - a. Full picture of "image of God" is seen in male and female
  - b. Illustrates God's relation to man  
Old Testament; Israel is God's Bride (Isaiah 62:5)  
New Testament: Church is Bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:32)
4. Fruit bearers for God (Genesis 1:28)
  - a. Physical: godly children (Psalm 127:3 ff)
  - b. Spiritual: godly character (John 15, Galatians 5.22,23)

#### B. Marriage; God Meets Man's needs

1. Social needs (Genesis 1:28)
  - a. As a unique creature, Man was all alone
  - b. God made marriage for Man's "Good"
2. Service Needs (Genesis 2:5, 15, 18)
  - a. Earth was too big for man to rule alone

- b. "Be fruitful and multiple" could not be done by man alone
- 3. Sexual needs (Genesis 1:28; 1 Corinthians 7:3, 4)
  - a. "be fruitful and multiply"
  - b. Genesis 2:24 Pattern: "leave, cleave, and become one flesh"

### C. Implications from Creation

- 1. Full dignity and responsibility of Man
- 2. Marriage is God's design, created for God's purposes
- 3. First two needs can be met in fellowship of believers--singleness?  
1 Corinthians 7: 7, 8, 29-35
- 4. The married person is to assist their partner in these 3 areas.

## II. Man Rebels in Eden: God's Creation is Spoiled

### A. Man and woman surrender to false king: Satan (2 Corinth 4:4-- 1 John 5:19)

- 1. Image of God is distorted, not erased. Genesis 9:6; James 3:9
  - a. Attributes are defiled (Genesis 6:5; 8:21)
  - b. Abilities used for evil (Genesis 11:6)
- 2. Man is brought under rule of Satan (John 8:44; 2 Timothy 2:26)
- 3. Rejecting God's truth perverts human sexuality (Romans 1:18-32;  
2 Peter 2: 1, 2, 14-19; Jude 4)
- 4. Evil Man produces bad fruit (Genesis 4: 8; Exodus 20:5)
  - a. Morally b. Physically c. Psychologically d. Socially

### B. Marriage: Perfect Harmony is Destroyed

- 1. Man and woman hide from God's presence (Genesis 3:8)
- 2. Reversal of creation marriage design
  - a. Irresponsible man (Genesis 3:12)--blames God and the woman
  - b. Dominant woman (Genesis 3:16, 4:7)-seeks to rule: "desire"

### C. Implications from the Fall

- 1. Sin distorts all human relationships
  - a. God to man- cursing (Genesis 3:16-19)
  - b. Man to God- guilt and shame (Genesis 3:8)
  - c. Man to woman: blame (Genesis 3:12)
  - d. Woman to Man: control (Genesis 3:16, 4:7)
  - e. Man to earth: sweat (Genesis 3:19)

- f. Earth to man: weeds (Genesis 3:18)
- 2. Fallen Man naturally does evil; what is "natural" is also sinful. (Genesis 6:5; 8:21; Psalm 51:5)
- 3. Human cultures, including their views of man and woman, are perverted by the fall; Deuteronomy 9:4, Acts 14:16, 17:31: all nations are evil.

III. Jesus Christ's work has made new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17)

A. New Lordship brings new lifestyle

- 1. Renewal of God's image in believer
  - a. Attributes-- Christ formed in us (Ephesians 4:22-24; Colossians 3:10)
  - b. Abilities: Christ's power in us (Galatians 2:20; Philippians 4:13)
- 2. Man in Christ regains His rule (Matthew 5:5; Luke 22:29)
  - a. We do not see Man ruling...yet (Hebrews 2:8)
  - b. We do see Jesus as Lord, 2nd Adam (Hebrews 2:9)
- 3. Sexuality is holy in Christ (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20; 7:2)
  - a. Seek a partner in purity (1 Thessalonians 4:1-5)
  - b. Maintain a marriage of purity (Hebrews 13:4)
- 4. In Christ we can bear good fruit (John 15:1-5; 1 Corinthians 15:23)
  - a. Holy children (1 Corinthians 7:14)
  - b. Spirit-produced character (Galatians 5:22, 23)

B. Christ's Power at work in Marriage

- 1. Man made new in Christ
  - a. Spirit-filled man can love his wife as Christ does (Ephesians 5:25-29; 1 Peter 3:7)
  - b. Spirit-filled woman can submit to her husband out of reverence for Christ (Ephesians 5:22-24; 1 Peter 3:1-6)
- 2. Christian home becomes a center for ministry (Acts 2: 44-46; 20:20; Romans 16:5)
- 3. Christian marriage becomes model for Church leadership (1 Tim 3:4,5, 5:8)

C. Implications from Re-Creation

- 1. We receive Christ's blessing in a "now but not yet" way (1 John 3:2; Romans 5:17)

2. New Testament Gospel is multi-cultural. There is not one "Christian cultural form." God seeks to purify all cultural forms (Revelation 7:9; 1 Timothy 4:1-5; Titus 1:15)
3. All cultural forms are judged by God in Christ (Acts 17:30, 31)
4. Biblical teaching surpasses our traditions (Mark 7:6-13)
5. Belonging to the "tribe of Jesus" - made from people of all races - may violate our cultural practices (Mark 10:28-30)

## Fall /Curse / Judgment

### I. Definitions

#### A. Terms describing our Fallenness

1. "Sin", literally "missing the mark"
  - a. Difference between sin as condition of man and specific acts
  - b. "Man is not a sinner because he commits sins, but he commits sin because he is a sinner."
2. "Failure" lack of success, to be inadequate, bankrupt
3. "error" : mistake, go astray, do wrong
4. "iniquity"-wickedness
5. "transgression" - to break the law, rebellion
6. "trespass" violate the rights of God or man
7. "lawlessness'\_ no concern for God's standards
8. "unrighteousness"-- breaking covenant promises, no justice
9. "Unbelief" -- disobedience, rebellion
  - a. the greatest sin a sinner can commit  
(John 16:9; Hebrews 3:12; 1 John 5:10)
  - b. not believing in Jesus as Savior and Lord is the "unforgivable sin"  
(Matthew 12:2; 1 John 5:16; Revelations 21:8)

#### B. Directed Against God

1. This is the greatest evil of sin-- offending a holy God (Romans 8:7)
2. Much worse than selfishness or a mistake (1 Samuel 15:22, 23)
3. Biblical view of sin must emphasize its primary focus against God, more than human loss (Psalm 51:4)
4. God's law is a mirror of His perfection. To break God's law is to slap God's face (1 John 3:4-10)

## II. Origin of Sin

### A. The Beginning of Sin Remains a Mystery

1. Scripture is silent about specific beginning of sin.
2. Satan before the Fall
  - a. The Bible says nothing exactly. We are left to speculation and suggestion.
  - b. Perhaps Satan was a high ranking angel??  
(Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:12-15, 17; Jude 9)
  - c. Unbiblical speculation is unwise (Deuteronomy 29:29)

### B. Entrance of Sin into Human Race

1. Adam was to be submitted to God's Lordship, God alone was to provide interpretation of good and evil (Genesis 2:15-17)
2. Sin resulted from sensual appetite, or desire (Genesis 3:6; James 1:13-15)
3. Satan attacked the integrity and truthfulness of God (Genesis 3:4)
4. Adam and Eve sought to replace God (Genesis 3:5)
5. In their sin Adam and Eve denied God's authority, doubted His goodness, challenged His wisdom, rejected His justice, contradicted His truthfulness, and spurned His grace. This continues to be the character of sin.

## III. Consequences of Sin

### A. Man's attitude to God: Fear and Shame

1. Perfect fellowship is broken.
2. Guilty man is afraid of God (Genesis 3: 8-10)
3. Sinful Man is ashamed before God and others (Genesis 3:7 cf 2:25)
4. Fear and shame still exist in our relationship with God (John 3:19, 20)

### B. God's Attitude to Man: Wrath and Displeasure

1. Reproof (Genesis 3:11)
2. Cursing (Genesis 3:17)
3. Condemnation (Genesis 3:19)
4. Expulsion from God's presence in the Garden (Genesis 3:24)

### C. Consequences for the Human Race

1. All kinds of sinful deeds
  - a. Murder (Genesis 4: 8, 23)
  - b. Sexual Immorality (Genesis 4:19; 6:2, 3)
  - c. Revenge: (Genesis 4:24)
2. Great wickedness
  - a. Before Flood (Genesis 6:5)
  - b. After Flood (Genesis 8:21)

### D. Consequences for Creation

1. Earth suffers when its lord sins (Genesis 1:26, Romans 8:20)
2. Ground is cursed (Genesis 3:17)

### E. Appearance of Death

1. Promised with the commandment (Genesis 2:17)
2. Resulted from the curse (Genesis 3:19)
3. Principle of Death--Separation; ultimate separation from God (Genesis 3:7,8, 5:5; Revelation 20:11-15)

## IV. Imputation: All sinned in the sin of Adam

### A. Principle of Representative Headship

1. In Society the actions of a leader reflect on his subjects.
  - a. Seen in the judges and kings of Israel (2 Samuel 24: 10-15, 25)
  - b. Seen in nations today (Proverbs 29:4, 31:4, 5)
2. In Scripture, 2 representative men: Adam and Christ - Second or Last Adam – (1 Corinthians 15:21, 22; 45-49)

### B. Adam: the father of sinners

1. In Eden Adam was on probation – Covenant of Works??
  - a. Perfect man representing all humanity (Romans 5:18a, 19a)
  - b. All mankind was declared guilty when Adam sinned in Eden (Romans 5:12 "all men sinned," 17a)
2. Following Adam, all mankind is born into sin (Psalm 51:5; John 3:6)

C. All Humanity is divided into two groups (Romans 5:15-20)

1. In Adam: Sin--Judgment--Condemnation--Death
2. In Christ: Obedience (Gift) -- Righteousness- Life

V. Depravity-- sin has perverted all which man does, says and thinks

A. Man's sinful "heart"

1. Scripture sees the "heart" as the control-center of man (Proverbs 4:23)
2. Since the heart is sinful, all else is evil; like a dirty spring of water (Jeremiah 17:9; Mark 7:20-23)
3. For man to be saved, he needs a new heart" (Ezekiel 36:26; 2 Corinthians 3:2, 3)

B. Completeness of Depravity (Genesis 6:5; 8-21)

1. Intensity – "wickedness of Man great in the earth"
2. Inwardness– "imagination of the thoughts of his heart"
3. Totality – "every imagination"
4. Constancy– "continually"
5. Exclusiveness– "only evil"
6. Early manifestation – "from his youth"

C. Total absence of that which is good and well pleasing to God.

1. Human Depravity– (Romans 3:10-20)
2. "Flesh"– sinful world order (Romans 8:5-8)

D. What of a sinner's "good deeds"?

1. "Man is not as bad as he could be, but he is not good as he should be"
2. Unbelievers still have a conscience (Romans 2:14, 15)
3. Unbelievers are responsible to obey God's law, even though they are spiritually unable (Psalm 14:4; Matthew 23:23)

E. God's Standard of Perfection– Has any action, word, or thought been:

1. Motivated by love to God and man? (Matthew 22:36, 37)
2. Done according to the law of God? (John 17:17)
3. To promote the glory of God? (1 Corinthians 10:31)

VI. Inability– the sinner is completely unable to please God

A. Terrible condition

1. Cannot know things of the Spirit of God (1 Corinthians 2:14)
2. Cannot obey the law of God (Romans 8:7)
3. Cannot please God (Romans 8:8)
4. Cannot do good works (Matthew 7:18)
5. Cannot even seek God (Romans 3:11 ff. John 6:44,45, 65)
6. Cannot change their condition (Jeremiah 13:23; Ephesians 2:1)

B. Radical Transformation– necessary for salvation

1. Salvation is not Human Reform - education, improvement, or rehabilitation
2. Only God can Save – New Birth and Resurrection  
(John 1:13; 3:5, 6, 8; 1 John 2:29; 3:9; 4:7; 5:1, 4, 18)

VII. Liability– God must react against sin

A. Scripture gives many warnings of God's:

1. Anger: Exodus 4:14; Numbers 11:10; Joshua 7:1
2. Wrath: Deuteronomy 29:23; Ps 6:1; Romans 1:18; John 3:36
3. Indignation: Psalm 38:3; Isaiah 10:5
4. Often several terms are together, adding strong emphasis
5. The threat is real and serious

B. God is compelled to punish sin–

1. By His Justice: Genesis 18:25; Romans 3: 5, 6
2. By His Holiness: Leviticus 19:1; Habakkuk 1:13
3. By His Love (esp. for His Son who died for sinners): Hebrews 10:26-31

C. God's wrath is:

1. A deliberate, controlled action; not a quick burst of rage
2. A righteous, pure hatred of sin, not malice.
3. A willful decision of His choice, not something forced.
4. Seen perfectly in Jesus (Mark 3:5; 10:14)

D. Eternal Hell: the full expression of God's wrath

1. Heb: "Gehenna" from Valley of Hinnom, outside of Jerusalem
  - a. place where children had been sacrificed by fire to Molech :  
(2 Chronicles 28:3; 33:6)
  - b. Became symbol for judgment and final punishment  
(Jeremiah 7: 31,32)

2. Biblical descriptions of Hell
  - a. Unquenchable fire: (Mark 9:43)
  - b. Eternal fire: (Matthew 18:8)
  - c. Lake of fire and brimstone: (Revelation 20:10)
  - d. Fate of devil and the unsaved: (Revelation 20:15)
  - e. The second death: (Revelations 20:14)
  - f. Fire: (Matthew 13:42,50; 25:41)
  - g. Darkness: (Matthew 9:12; 22:13; 25:30; 2 Peter 2:17; Jude 13)
  
3. Strong warnings of Scripture
  - a. God has power to cast body and soul into hell: (Matthew 5:29, 30; 10:28; Luke 12:5)
  - b. Jesus talks more about Hell than about Heaven
  - c. Jesus talks about Hell mostly to His own followers

#### VIII. Judgment: Due for All People

- A. God is ruler, lawgiver and judge : (James 4:12)
  1. The Judge of all the Earth: (Genesis 18:25)
    - a. Sometimes seen as work of God: (Hebrews 12:23)
    - b. Sometimes as work of Christ: (John 5:26, 27; Acts 10:42; 17:31; 2 Timothy 4:8)
    - c. Sometimes Father and Son: (John 5:30)
  
  2. The Place of judgment – one event, different descriptions:
    - a. Judgment seat of God: (Romans 14:10)
    - b. Judgment seat of Christ: (2 Corinthians 5:10)
    - c. Great white throne: (Revelation 20:11)
  
  3. The Fact of Judgment
    - a. A sure reality for all: (Hebrews 9:27)
    - b. Bible is concerned with this fact of justice, not with a specific timetable or location of occurrence.
  
  4. Degrees of Judgment: More light Received, More Responsible (Luke 12:48)
    - a. General Revelation
      1. Creation: (Romans 1:20)
      2. Conscience: (Romans 2.15)
      3. Those without Law: (Romans 2.12)

- b. Special Revelation
  - 1. Those with Law: (Romans 2.12)
  - 2. Heard Gospel: (Hebrews 6.4-6; 10.25 ff)
- c. Degrees of Hellfire: (Matthew 11:24)
- d. Degrees of Heavenly Reward: "Crowns" (1 Corinthians 9.25; Philippians 4.1; 1 Thess 2.19; 2 Tim 2.5; 4.8; James 1:12; 1 Peter 5.4; Revelation 2.10: 3.11)
- 5. Basis of Judgment– "genuine faith in Christ, shown by good works" (Revelation 20.13-15)
  - a. God's ultimate question: "What have you done with my Son?"
  - b. Destiny of men rests on attitude to Jesus: (Matt 10.32/3; 11:21-24; Mark 8:38)
- 6. Day of Judgment– in stages
  - a. Whenever a person rejects Jesus: (John 3:18-20)
  - b. At the moment a person believes: (John 5:24; Romans 8:1)
  - c. At death: (Hebrews 9:27)
  - d. Final Judgment/Vindication– Christ's return: (Revelation 11.18; 19:2; 20:12)

#### IV. The Saving Work of Jesus Christ

##### A. Obedience: summarizes all work of Christ

- 1. Servant of the Lord (Psalm 40:8 (Hebrews 10:5-10); Isaiah 42:1; 49:6; 53.11)
- 2. Servant of the Father (Matthew 3:15; John 4:34; 6:38; Hebrews 10:9)
- 3. Active Obedience: as man, Jesus obeys the commands of the law perfectly.
  - a. Grew in obedience (Luke 2:52; Hebrews 5: 8, 9)
  - b. Continuous temptation (Luke 4:13)
- 4. Passive Obedience: Jesus willingly gave His life to receive the curse of the broken Law
  - a. He was born to die (Matthew 1:21; Luke 2:34; John 12:27)
  - b. Terrible death (Matthew 26:39; Mark 14:33; Luke 12:50)
  - c. Triumphant death (Mark 10:32-35; Luke 9:31; John 10:17,18; 19:10,11; Phil 2:7,8)
    - 1) Jesus' dual obedience, law's demands fulfilled (Rom 1:17; 3:31; 8:4; 1 Jn 1:9)
    - 2) Positive and Negative Impact of God's Law

Positive – Law Fulfilled	Negative – Penalty for Broken Law Paid
Jesus kept Law's Commands	Jesus endured Law's Curse
ACTIVE Obedience	PASSIVE Obedience
Romans 5.19	Galatians 3.10-13

## B. Sacrifice (Ephesians 5:2; Revelation 5:6)

1. Expiation: Impersonal, correcting what is wrong, Ex.: "one expiates a sin or crime"
  - a. Old Testament worshipper transferred his sin and its penalty to sacrificial animal
  - b. The "scape goat" carried away the memory of sin and its penalty.
  - c. Jesus is the perfect expiatory sacrifice (Hebrews 9:6-15; John 1:29)
  - d. He is both priest and sacrifice (Hebrews 7:27; 9:14)
  - e. He is our final sacrifice (Hebrews 9:26; 10:10, 12, 14)
2. Propitiation: personal, turning away anger, Ex.: "one propitiates a person"
  - a. Anger/wrath of God
    - 1) OT- 20 different words, 580 + times
    - 2) God hates sin (Isaiah 1:14; 61:8; Matthew 3:7; Romans 1:18)
    - 3) God hates sinners (Exodus 32:10; Psalm 5:5; 11:5; John 3:36; Isaiah 30: 27-30; Ezekiel 7:8-9; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9)
  - b. God will put His anger away (Psalm 78:38; 85:3; Isaiah 48:9; Micah 7:18)
  - c. Jesus' sacrifice propitiates God's wrath against sinners
    - 1) Sinners - Objects of Wrath (Romans 1:18; 2:5; 3:5; 4:15→ 3:25)
    - 2) Hebrews 2:17 "to propitiate" verb
    - 3) 1 John 2:1, 2; 4:10
  - d. Only propitiation restores us to loving relationship with a God of wrath (Rom 11:22)
3. Definite Accomplishment of the Atonement
  - a. Universal scope of Christ's death (Isaiah 53:6; 1 Tim 4:10; Heb 2:9; 1 John 2:2)
    - 1) No limit can be placed on the tremendous value of Christ's death  
"It is sufficient for the whole world. It is efficient for God's elect"
    - 2) The Cross has delayed God's global wrath, such that God is patiently waiting for sinners to repent (2 Peter 3:9; Matthew 5:45)
    - 3) The Cross has motivated Christians unto countless works of charity
  - b. Biblical words "all" and "world" do not always mean every single person in all time throughout the whole world (Acts 2:5; Romans 1:8; Mark 1:5; Luke 21:17)
    - 1) Christ death has obvious benefits for all people – ex. The Red Cross
    - 2) Question: For whom did Christ fully accomplish salvation as their substitute?
  - c. Christ came to accomplish salvation, not just make it possible  
(John 4:34; 6:38, 39; 17:4; 19:30; Heb 1:3; 9-12; Revel 5:9)
  - d. We're called to preach salvation, not just its possibility (Isa 40:1,2; 2 Corinth 5:20, 21)
  - e. God would be unjust to demand that a sinner's penalty be paid twice (Genesis 18:25)
  - f. Scripture talks of God's unique love for His people: (Matthew 1:21; 20:28; John 10:15, 26; 11:52; 15:13; 17:9, 20; Acts 20:28; Ephesians 5:25; Titus 2:14; 3:5,6)

- g. By grace God has accomplished salvation for a particular people, not just offering salvation for some; leaving powerless sinners to attempt to finish the work.

### C. The Resurrection

1. Confirmation by the Father: ‘This is My Son, Hear Him!’
  - a. Romans 8.11 – “him who raised Jesus from the dead”
  - b. Psalm 110.1 - The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand..."
  - c. Psalm 2.6 - "I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill."
  - d. Ephes 1.20 – “he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand”
  
2. Certainty of Salvation: ‘Sin is Defeated, Believe Him!’
  - a. Romans 4.25 - “raised to life for our justification”
  - b. Romans 6.11 – “count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus”
  - c. 1 Peter 4.1 - “he who has suffered in his body is done with sin”
  
3. Commencement of Sovereign Rule of the Son: ‘All Authority in Heaven and Earth!’
  - a. Romans 1.4 – “declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection”
  - b. Ephesians 1.10 – “to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head”
  - c. Revelation 12.5 – “a son, a male child, who will rule all the nations with an iron scepter. And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne”
  
4. Connection with the Spirit: ‘You are Risen with Christ!’
  - a. Romans 8.9-11 “the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you”
  - b. Coloss 3.1 - “you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above”
  - c. Romans 6.4 – “just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life”
  
5. Confirmed by Signs: ‘He has Risen Indeed!’
  - a. 1 Cor 15.14 “if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless & so is your faith”
  
  - b. Resurrection was Historical Event that is attested to with objective evidence:
    - 1) The Scriptures – 66 Books of Bible are the Greatest Miracle of God
      - a) Gospel Narratives - 4 x's > Slight variations of eyewitnesses
      - b) All of NT is written from perspective of Resurrection of Christ
  
    - 2) Empty Tomb
      - a) Excuses: 1. Swoon 2. Stolen 3. Wrong Tomb
      - b) Tomb was Sealed and Guarded - Matt 27.63-64
      - c) No body or skeleton has ever been found
      - d) Discovered by women, whose testimony was ‘legally worthless’
  
    - 3) Grave Clothes
      - a) dead body wrapped with meters of tightly woven cloth, 100 lbs. spices
      - b) John 20.6 - "strips of cloth lying there" = "carefully placed in order"

c) John 20.7 Head cloth in same place / shape / Body passed thru clothes

"A glance at these graveclothes proved the reality, and indicated the nature, of the resurrection."

John R.W. Stott

4) Risen Jesus was Seen

- a) By more than 500 at one time (1 Cor 15.6)
- b) Some of them saw the crucifixion

5) Transformation of Disciples: Would they die for a hoax?

- a) Peter – Weak Denial > Bold Declaration
- b) Saul the Persecutor > Paul the Persecuted
- c) James – Unbelieving Brother > Leader of Jerusalem church  
(John 7.1-5 / 1 Corinth 15.7 / Acts 1.14, 15.13)

6) The Lord's Day

- a) Jews had strictly kept the Sabbath for over 1000 years
- b) Soon Church worshipped on first day of week (Acts 20.7, 1 Cor 16.2)
- c) Sunday = 'the Lord's day' celebrate the Resurrection (Rev 1.10)

7) World-wide Christian Church

- a) Risen Lord honored in every culture in all languages (Rev 7.9)
- b) As God is Creator of Cultures, the Gospel "fits" all Peoples (Acts 9.31)
- c) All in Christ sing with joy from their hearts and languages (Coloss 3.16)
- d) Millions testify to knowing the Risen Lord Jesus Christ (Rev 5.9,10)
- e) Billions in hard earned money, freely and cheerfully given by generous Christians (2 Cor 9.7,8)

c. Resurrection of Jesus is Foundation upon which all Doctrine is built

- 1) There is a God, God of the Bible, True and Living (John 1.18, 1 Cor 15.15)
- 2) Deity of Christ – claim to be God, proven by Resurrection (John 5.18)
- 3) Christians are Forgiven > Resurrection = Sacrifice is Accepted (Romans 4.25)
- 4) Christian can live a life pleasing to God (Eph 1.19-20)
- 5) Death is not the end, but the beginning, of true life (John 14.3)
- 6) Time will end with Jesus as the Judge of mankind (Acts 17.31, Heb 9.27,28)

Last Words of Buddha: I have made myself my refuge. Be diligent, mindful and extremely virtuous. With thoughts collected guard your mind. In this doctrine and discipline by living strenuously, you will escape the cycle of rebirth and put an end to suffering...Transient are all component things, strive on with diligence Buddha Gotama, more than 2500 years ago

D. The Ascension– "ascend" = go up

1. The Event

- a. Predicted by OT (Psalm 2:6-12; Psalm 110; Daniel 7:13, 14)
- b. Predicted by Christ (Matthew 26:64; John 6:62; 13:3, 33; 14:28; 16:5; 10, 17, 28)
- c. Occurred 40 days after resurrection (Luke 24: 50, 51; Acts 1:2, 9-11)

- d. Ascension of whole person of Christ – "We have a Man in Heaven"
- e. True, glorified resurrection body and soul (Luke 24:41-43, John 21:12-15)
- f. Ascension was visible – Disciples witnessed disappearance into a cloud (Acts 1:9)

Cloud often symbolized divine presence:

- 1) wilderness (Exodus 13:21)
- 2) Tabernacle (Exodus 40:34)
- 3) Temple (1 Kings 8:10)
- 4) Elijah's voice from God (1 Kings 18:44)
- 5) Transfiguration (Matthew 17:5; Mark 9:7; Luke 9:34)

- g. Ascension was geographical– Christ transferred from Earth to Heaven  
Heaven is definite place, another "dimension" (Acts 7:55), variously described:
  - 1) Sky itself–home of clouds, birds, rains (Psalm 19:1; 78:23; 93:4; 102:19)
  - 2) Region of stars "host of heaven"
  - 3) Condition of blessing: i.e. heavenly benefits (Ephes 2:6; Philip 3:20)
  - 4) Place where God himself dwells (John 14:1-3; Rev 4:1; 21:9; 22:7)

## 2. Theological Meaning of Ascension

- a. Central to Gospel Message of Apostles (Acts 2: 23; 3:21; 5:31; 7:55; Eph 4:10; Philip 2:9; 1 Thess 1:10; 4:14-16; 1 Tim 3:16; 1 Pet 3:22)
- b. Completion of Resurrection: Resurrection was Preparation for Ascension
- c. Beginning of Exaltation and Enthronement (Philippians 2:9-10; Hebrews 1:3, 4):
  - 1) Exalted Christ is Working Now (John 5:17)
  - 2) Right hand = Glory, Authority, Power, Control (Matt 28:18; Acts 2:33; 36)
- d. Begins ministry of Intercession (Hebrews 4:14; 7:25,26; 8:1; 10:12; 12:2)
- e. Ends earthly ministry of humiliation, begins heavenly ministry of Glory (John 17:4,5)
- f. All things put under rule of Christ (1 Cor 15:24, 25; Phil 2: 9-11; Eph 1:9, 10)
- g. Christ rules world for benefit of Church (Ephesians 1:19-23)
- h. Giving of Gift of Holy Spirit (John 7:39; 20:20; Acts 2:33; Ephesians 4:8)
- i. Opening the Way to God (John 14:6; Hebrews 9:24, 25)
- j. Beginning of New Age (Ephesians 1:22; Hebrews 12:18-24)

V. Offices of the Ascended Christ

A. Prophet

1. God’s Revelation records God’s Redemption (Psalm 19)
2. Spirit-filled apostles gave full and final revelation of God (Eph 2:20; Heb 1:1,2)
3. Christ speaks from heaven in power (Ephes 2:17; Heb 12:25; Rev 19:10)
4. Scripture: Full and final message of Jesus written (2 Tim 3:17, Jude 3, Rev 22.18,19)

B. Priest

1. on Earth Christ was priest and sacrifice (Hebrews 9: 12-14)
2. in Heaven, Christ is Priest and king (Hebrews 7:2; 8:1)

Focus of Jesus’ Earthly Work: His Death	Focus of Jesus’ Heavenly Work: His Life
On Earth he GAINED salvation	From heaven He GRANTS salvation
On Earth He came for All	In heaven He intercedes for Church (Romans 8:34; Hebrews 9:24; John 17:9)

C. King

1. Jesus has always been a king
  - a. At birth by right (Matthew 2:2;John 18:37)
  - b. In person by dignity (John 1:49)
  - c. In service by authority (Mark 1:27; 4:41)
  
2. Through ascension He takes full possession of His kingly rule (Acts 2:36; Eph 1:20, 21; Philip 2:9; 1Peter 3:22)
  
3. He is king through founding of Church
  - a. By giving Spirit (Acts 2:33; 1 Corinthians 12:3)
  - b. By extending His kingdom message of salvation (Matthew 16:18-20; 28:18-20)
  - c. By controlling His kingdom: hearing prayer (1 Corinthians 9:21)
  - d. By defending His kingdom (Acts 5:19; 12:7,23)
  - e. By perfecting His kingdom—coming in glory (1 Timothy 6:14, Psalm 115)

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