

Origins of Man Doctrine- *Imago Dei* Genesis 1:26-28 5:1, 9:6 "Made in his image" (Heb -*Selem* that means resemblance, likeness, or 'shadow of'. Not the fullness of, but representation of. All images represent something, e.g. statues. There are many theories as to why we are described as being like God, Rational? Spiritual? Moral? Intelligent? Relational?

Atheistic thinker Ludwig Feuerbach (Marx, Freud followed) 'We made God'. God is an outward projection of human needs, as Christians we know God made man. Genesis 2 :7. We owe everything to God. Psalm 139:13-14.

Made for relationship with God. We were created differently, God formed man, but spoke rest of creation.

God made people moral, conscious beings, not just evolved animals led by instincts alone, We have the capacity to have a relationship with God. The Earth, Plants and animals all have much value, but the value of human life is far superior. Colossians 1: 15-17 Psalm 8:4-5, 139:13-14 Gives us purpose. Secular Humanism places all on the same level. Humans were made innocent, not perfect, and had the freedom to choose right or wrong.

God made Male and Female God made male and female physically and psychologically different, but before God we are the same. Galatians 3:28. 1 Corinthians 11:12 We intended to complement and support each other.

Trichotomy or Dichotomy? Are we made up of three, two or one parts?

Some are Monoists (mainly atheists) who say we are all one being, everything is of the same essence.

Oneism v Twoism are different worldviews. If you accept we are one, then when our body dies, all of us is dead too.

Dichotomy holds that a Soul and Spirit of a person is the same. We are two parts inward and outward (body) Those who hold this view, say the words soul and spirit are interchangeable e.g. John 12:27, 13:21 Mark 12 :30 & 33

Different words but all meaning same/similar sort of thing. They are often interchangeable in everyday language.

Trichotomy 1 Thessalonians 5 :23 Hebrews 4 :12 This view holds that the Spirit and Soul are always distinct. Three parts reflect the trinity of God - Made in His image

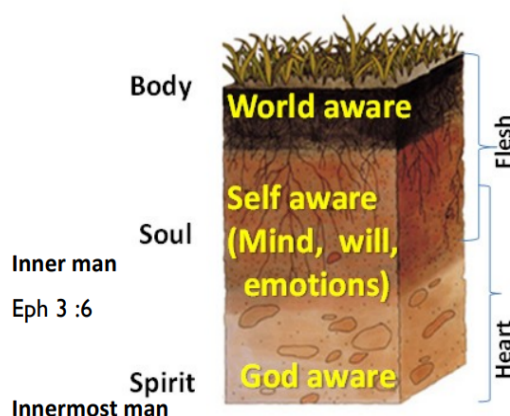
Questions

What is the difference between the Christian view of Man & the world's view?

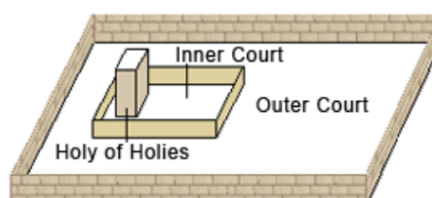
The Body (Greek - Soma) Some have taught the body is not important. However our are bodies important, and we will have new ones, one day! 2 Corinthians 5 :1, Jesus came in one John 1:14, Romans 12:1, can be used for God 1 Corinthians 6 :20

The Soul (Hebrew *Nephesh*, Greek - *Psyche*) CS Lewis - "You don't have a soul. You are a Soul. You have a body." We make decisions (will), use reason (intellect/mind), have feelings (emotions). It is the real 'us' Our souls are not made new at conversion but need to be changed over time 1 Peter 1:22-23, 2 Corinthians 3:18 'The Spirit' (Greek - Pneuma) Proverbs 20 :27, Psalm 42:6-7

The Spirit (Hebrew- *Ruach*, Greek -*Pneuma*) within us makes us different from animals. Ecclesiastes 12 :7, Mark 2 :8 Within our spirit we have intuition, conscience, awareness of God. e.g. that deep feeling something is right. The spirit of an unbeliever in unresponsive/hardened/ to the things of God but comes alive at conversion Romans 8 :10, 1 Corinthians 2 :14, Ephesians 2 :1, 4:18-19 until God's Spirit enters into us, at our conversion, making us new at the core of our being. 1 Corinthians 2:14, John 3 :5-8 (Greek word for wind and spirit the same)



	Ideal (sin always problem)	Long term
Body	Health	New bodies given on resurrection
Soul	Happiness/Joy	Existence given at birth
Spirit	Holiness	Eternal abundant life given at new birth



Three parts to the temple with God's presence found in the innermost part.

The issue of Sin

Are we good or bad? Nature or nurture? Are we just product of our environment? "I do bad things because of...." 'I'm a victim'. World fights Biblical concept of sin, Doctrine of Original Sin. All people are born with a sinful nature Psalm 14:2-3 Ephesians 2 :1-3, Some (Pelagius) argued Adam just set bad example.

Augustine however taught our very nature is corrupt. Doctrine of 'Total Depravity' Isaiah 64 :6, Jeremiah 17 :9, This is because we are in rebellion against God. Some have argued that infants aren't sinful it's from time when we can make moral choices Genesis 8:21. However, if our nature is sinful, we always have that nature even if we haven't demonstrated it yet. An example could be, some babies are born addicted to the drugs of their parents. Consequence of our nature is death, so if an infant can die, it must possess the nature.

How does sin affect Humans?

1. We die. Genesis 2:17, Romans 6:23
2. We feel shame. Genesis 3:8
3. We don't accept responsibility. Blame - Genesis 3:12-13 Human relationships become strained.
4. Fear Genesis 3:10
5. Punishment. For Men hard physical work, Women in child birth. Genesis 3:16-17
6. Our open, close relationship with God ended.
7. Our full free will has gone. We are not able, to not sin. We cannot be fully open to God without his help.
8. Creation decays around us Romans 8:20
9. We see things other than they are. False thinking and worldview
10. We are part of a cosmic battle. John 10:10



Questions

Do we underestimate the way sin has effected our World and also our thinking?

Different views of Human nature over time.

Historic 'thinkers' thought, our identity came from our relationships with family, or tribe, the individual was unimportant. Plato thought our bodies are depraved and we need to brake loose from the prison of the body.

St Augustine 'The Confessions' - concept of individual autonomous individuals with an inner life

Rene Descartes 'I think, therefore I am'. Thinking vital part of being human, we can improve ourselves by logic.

Jonathan Edwards (Christian) - Individuals in need of improvement Individual + Gods Grace

Jean-Jacques Rousseau - Individual doesn't need God, we are basically good, We need to accept and love ourselves. Don't be negative - there is no sin.

William James - Good person no need for God, Psychologist needed to understand ourselves.

Abraham Maslow - Self hierarchy of needs, need to glorify self, to achieve our full potential.



What should a 'normal person' look like? Jesus. Without sin we would be like Jesus. Reflect God like mirror. Don't compare ourselves to others, ourselves but Jesus. The ability to change and be changed. 2 Corinthians 5:17 The core of the Christian message is that people can change. Change starts with our acceptance of our sinful nature, plus repentance. Matthew 4 :17, Acts 3 :19, 20:21

On conversion, God begins a work within 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ezekiel 36 :26-27, Ephesians 2 :4-5, Titus 3 :3-7

Holy Spirit within us - 1 Corinthians 3 :16, Romans 8 :6, 1 Corinthians 2 : 10-12

God wants to restore our Soul Psalm 23:3

Minds - Renewed Romans 12 :2, 2 Corinthians 10 :4 Let the Spirit take God's word and apply it to our thinking.

Emotions - They are God given but need to not control us. Stabilised Hebrew 6 :19 Galatians 5:23 -self control

Will - Freed to choose right John 8 :36 Matthew 6 :10 We need to give ourselves the right environment in which to grow and be changed. Study Word, Prayer, fellowship etc. Changing is a process not an event.

Above all, our continued brokenness before God. Psalm 51:10 and :17.

Questions

Any Questions or Comments?

Next time - Christians and the State