

Defending and Building Your Faith Christian Apologetics – Worksheet 03

Week 3 – Creation and the Fall, Salvation and Sanctification of Man

As the title indicates, this week we will discuss creation and the fall, salvation and sanctification of man. Our topics include:

- Creation
- Man
 - The fall of man – AG Fundamental Truth #4
 - The salvation of man – AG Fundamental Truth #5
 - The sanctification of man

We will begin with a basic overview of creation.

Creation

God's creation is a completely _____ act of His will. The act of creation was not something that God was forced, compelled, or needed to do. God created the universe and all that is, simply because He chose to. ^{SMJ2}

The creation is both _____ upon God, and _____ from God. God is not part of the creation, and the creation is not part of God. The creation is not an extension of God's nature. Creation is separate from God. ^{SMJ2}

God made the universe out of nothing. That is not to say there is, or was, a substance called "nothing," that God used to make the universe. Rather, it means that God brought the universe into existence by the _____ of his _____. We do not know how this was done, but only that God did it. ^{SMJ2}

When God made the universe, He brought into existence _____, physical reality, the laws of motion, energy, etc. They were all arranged according to God's _____ and _____, so that we might have an orderly and safe universe in which to live. God placed within the universe the galaxies, and the solar systems within the galaxies. Our solar system is the only one with life in it. Of course, there may be those who conclude that life exists elsewhere, but the incredible complexity of the genetic material that produces life is so great, that life cannot form by random chance in the universe. (More on this in the evolution section later.) God created life and put it here on Earth. The account of Genesis, chapters one and two, are _____. ^{SMJ2}

Purpose of Creation

The primary purpose of creation is to _____. Isaiah 43:7 says, "Everyone who is called by My name, and whom I have created for My glory, whom I have formed, even whom I have made." ^{SMJ2} Revelation 4:11 also states that all things were created for His pleasure:

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."

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Creation shows us that God is infinitely _____, and infinitely _____. The universe is incomprehensibly huge, and intricately arranged. Its creation can only have been done by a Being who surpasses the scope and depth of the universe itself. Since the universe is so carefully arranged on such a tremendously large scale, then we can also conclude that the wisdom of God is immensely deep. ^{SMJ2}

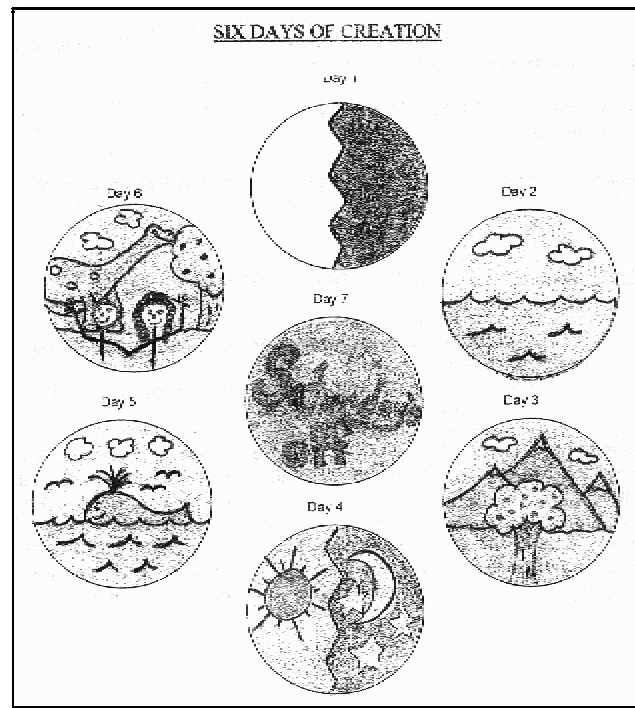
God did not create the universe because He was lonely. Loneliness would be a _____ in God's nature. But since God is _____, He cannot be lonely. Furthermore, the nature of the Trinity, the three Persons in the Godhead, provides all the fellowship God needs. From all eternity there was fellowship within the Godhead, within the one being of God who is perfectly and eternally self-sufficient. ^{SMJ2}

If anything, God created the universe for the purpose of having beings with whom He could _____. It would seem that this fellowship is a manifestation of the nature of _____. We can see that the nature of love is to give. John 3:16 says, "for God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son...." Notice that giving is due to God's love, and what better thing is there for God to give than Himself in sacrifice, as well as fellowship? Those who are parents can more easily relate to this. Parents love their children, and because of that, they desire to give to them. It is not a deficiency in them. Rather, it is a _____ of the nature of _____, self-sacrifice, giving, and fellowship. Therefore, we can safely say that God created the universe so that we might live in it, and so that God might have fellowship with us. ^{SMJ2}

Specifics of Creation

Pastor Phenis provided a great teaching on creation on Wednesday night, February 4th, 2009. It was lesson two of "A Systematic Study of the Word of God" and was entitled "God's Work Week." If you missed that service and don't have the worksheet let me know after class so I can arrange to get the worksheet to you if you can't get it from the church website. You'll also want to get the CD of the teaching from Brother Bolinger or download or stream it from the church website at www.goshenfirstag.org.

As a summary of the creation and for a quick review, I'm including Brother Phenis' wonderful "Six Days of Creation" chart seen to the right.



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Man

Man is the direct creation of God. In the Garden of Eden, God made man _____. He made Man as both male and female, and He made them in His _____.^{SMJ2}

Genesis 1:26-27 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. (27) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Man is the only creature that is made in the _____ of God. Adam had the breath of life breathed into him, whereas the _____ did not (Gen. 2:7). This means that man is like God in various ways. God can reason, as can we. God can love, hate, show kindness, be merciful, etc., and so can we. The animals do not write poetry, contemplate the meaning of life, participate in political activities, develop orphanages, build hospitals, ponder the vastness of the universe, make moral choices, or attend schools. All animals lack the _____ to do these things, because they lack _____ and physical capabilities necessary to carry them out, since they are not made in God's image.^{SMJ2}

God is _____ with man. Man is the object of God's creative and _____ work. God loves us (John 3:16), provides for us (Matt. 5:43-47), and has provided redemption for us through His Son (John 3:16).^{SMJ2}

The word redemption above nicely leads to the next topic, the fall of man.

The Fall of Man – AG Fundamental Truth #4

The Fall is that event in which Adam and Eve, the first humans, freely _____ to _____ against God, and thereby sinned. Because of their sin, Adam and Eve _____ away from their original righteousness and communion with God.^{SMJ2}

The fourth fundamental truth of the Assemblies of God states:

Man was created good and upright; for God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." However, man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God (Genesis 1:26,27; 2:17; 3:6; Romans 5:12-19).^{AG1}

The instigator of the Fall was Satan, in the form of the Serpent, who _____ Eve, and encouraged her to eat the fruit that God had forbidden. In Gen. 2:16-17, God said, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; 17 but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die." The serpent _____ God's Word, and so _____ Eve:^{SMJ2}

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Genesis 3:1-4 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? (2) And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: (3) But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. (4) And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

Satan _____ God's Word, and Eve believed what Satan said. She then ate of the fruit and sinned. Adam followed in Eve's footsteps, freely choosing to rebel against God, and ate the fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, from which God had commanded them not to eat. ^{SMJ2}

One of the consequences of The Fall was that Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden of Eden. They were _____ of the presence of God, and were then destined to experience physical death. In addition, their _____ were _____, and they became sinful in heart. In other words, sin then affected _____ of what they were in body, soul, mind, emotions, etc. ^{SMJ2}

A question we must ask is "what is sin?" Simply put, sin is the _____, or rather, the _____ of God's Law. We find this fact established at the fall of man as described above, and in the simple definition stated clearly in 1 John 3:4.

1 John 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

God says, "Do not bear false witness," (Exodus 20:16). If you lie, bear false witness, then you have sinned. In the Old Testament, God revealed the Law to His people. The Old Testament Law, authored by God, was comprised of three main categories: the _____ law, the _____ law, and the _____ law. The moral law is a reflection of God's holy character. Jesus said in Matt. 12:34, "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks." When God spoke the Law into existence, He was speaking out of the abundance of His heart. In other words, God was revealing to us His character. Therefore, the _____ law is a _____ of God's character. It is wrong to lie, not because God arbitrarily decided that it was wrong, but because it is against God's holy nature. God cannot lie. ^{SMJ2}

The _____ law is that part of the Old Testament Law dealing with government, administrations, punishments, etc. The judicial law is an enforcement of the moral law by statutes and penalties. ^{SMJ2}

The _____ law deals with the application of the work of reconciliation of the sinner and God through sacrifices offered by the priests. It is an application of the requirements of atonement necessary for all those who break the moral law. ^{SMJ2}

The Old Testament Law was given so that we might recognize that the moral standard of God is _____, and that we are not able to keep that standard. The Law, though it is good, reveals our sinfulness. It does this because it requires that we be holy and perfect, but _____ us when we are

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not. The Law is not Grace; it is stipulation and punishment. All who break the Law have challenged the moral proclamation of God. Therefore, to sin is to break the Law of God. This is why the Law leads us to Christ: ^{SMJ2}

Galatians 3:24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

All who have sinned will fall under the righteous _____ of the Law of God, which requires that the sinner be punished. ^{SMJ2} This leads to our next topic, the salvation of man.

The Salvation of Man – AG Fundamental Truth #5

The fifth fundamental truth of the Assemblies of God states:

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God. ^{AG1}

(a) Conditions to Salvation ^{AG1}

Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life (Luke 24:47; John 3:3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11; 3:5-7). ^{AG1}

(b) The Evidences of Salvation ^{AG1}

The inward evidence of salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit (Romans 8:16). The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness (Ephesians 4:24; Titus 2:12). ^{AG1}

The term, "_____", in Greek, is, "soteria." From this word we get soteriology; the study of salvation. The term, "salvation," is used in different ways throughout the Bible. It can mean: to be saved from an adversary (Exodus 14:13), saved from violence (2 Sam. 22:3), saved from troubles (Psalm 34:6), etc. However, in the New Testament, we see our salvation largely as the deliverance from the _____ of God through the forgiveness of our sins (Luke 1:77), which is found in Jesus alone (Acts 4:12). After all, salvation belongs to the Lord (Psalm 3:8), and Jesus is the author of our salvation (Heb. 10:2). ^{SMJ2}

We might ask - from what are we saved? And even another question - from Whom are we saved? First of all, we are saved from the righteous _____ of God. God is loving, kind, and gracious, and He does not take pleasure in the death of the wicked (Ezekiel 18:23). But, He does judge, because He is the righteous and holy _____, and He must _____ the sinner. He cannot let rebellion against His Holy Law go unpunished. If He did, then how could He be just? Therefore, God's righteous judgment is upon all who break the Law: all who are sinners. To be saved, is to be saved from the righteous judgment of God. It means to be saved from the damning work of condemnation, that God will impose upon all who have not found forgiveness in Christ. This judgment will occur at the Final Judgment, when all people will be examined. Of course, the

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Christian has passed out of the judgment of condemnation (Rom. 8:1), and his works are the only things that will be judged (2 Cor. 5:10). The non-Christian, however, will suffer the full judgment of God, in the form of eternal damnation.
SMJ2

Secondly, we can very easily say that we are saved from God Himself, in the sense that we are saved from the Righteous Judge. This is not to say that God is not holy, or loving. Instead, to say that we are saved from God, helps us to see the _____ righteousness of God, and that it is He who condemns people to Hell. In other words, God takes sin very seriously. This may be difficult for some to understand, but it is the truth. We need to understand the _____ of God's character, and the necessity of His righteousness in judgment. SMJ2

This is why the preaching of the Gospel must follow the preaching of the Law. It is the Law that makes us _____ of our sinfulness when it says: do not lie, do not covet, and do not steal. Because there is a standard of righteousness, when we break that standard, we therefore have incurred the _____ wrath of God. This means that God will punish all who have sinned against Him. This is something you must tell people, but not in a condemning and angry manner. Rather, you must inform them that their actions have consequences before God. Furthermore, once they are made aware of their sin, they will then see the necessity to be saved from damnation. This is when the Gospel is presented, and you tell people that Jesus, Who is God in flesh, *born of a virgin*, and Who died on the Cross, and rose from the dead, is the only way to be forgiven of their sins, and to escape the judgment to come. This is not a message of _____, but of deliverance, _____, love, and of grace. SMJ2
Salvation leads to sanctification, our next topic.

The Sanctification of Man – AG Fundamental Truth #9

Some additional concepts related to salvation are described below along with sanctification. These words and concepts are mentioned because a basic understanding of them will be helpful, even necessary as we continue in our Christian apologetics studies.

Atonement

To atone means to make _____ for a _____ committed. Jesus is the One who atoned for our sins by shedding His blood. Lev. 17:11 says, "For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul." The Old Testament method of atonement was through _____. The Old Testament sacrificial system was a foreshadowing of the true sacrifice of Christ. God ordained from all eternity that the Son would shed His blood on the Cross, and thereby cleanse us of our sins. "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin," (1 John 1:7). Furthermore, the sacrifice of Christ is called a propitiation: "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world," (1 John 2:2). The word,

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"propitiation," in the Greek, is, "hilasmos." It means, "to _____, and remove wrath through a sacrifice." Jesus, therefore, is the sacrifice that appeases God, and removes His wrath from the sinner. ^{SMJ2}

Justification

Justification is the _____ declaration by God upon the sinner, whereby He _____ the sinner _____ in His sight. Justification is not that the sinner is righteous because of his own works; rather, God declares the sinner righteous. It is a foreign righteousness. It is the righteousness of Christ that is given to us. This declaration of righteousness is based upon the work of Christ on the Cross. It is nothing that we earn; it is something we receive. Justification is a legal term, because it deals with God's Law. ^{SMJ2}

Justification is accomplished by faith. Romans 5:1 says, "Therefore being justified by faith....". In the Greek, "Having been justified," is in the perfect tense. This means that the action of justifying us is completed in the past, but the effects continue into the present. We have been justified by faith, and we still are justified by faith. It is faith, not works, that makes us right before God. ^{SMJ2}

The reason we are justified by faith, and not by works of the Law (Gal. 2:16), is because the works of the Law cannot justify us, since we cannot keep the Law. Jesus kept the Law, and His righteousness is reckoned (imputed) to us, when we believe. Therefore, we are made right in God's sight, by faith in Christ. ^{SMJ2}

Furthermore, justification is an instantaneous act of God. This means that it occurs once, and for all. It is not a process whereby we become better and better, and then finally end up being justified, because of a series of things we do or believe. Justification is based completely and totally upon the work of Christ, and we receive this by faith. ^{SMJ2}

Regeneration

Regeneration is often equated with the term, "_____." Jesus said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God," (John 3:3). Regeneration is the work of God, whereby He imparts into the believer a new spiritual life. It is a _____, a _____ in the _____ of a person. It is a supernatural occurrence, done by God upon the person who has trusted in Christ, and become justified before God. ^{SMJ2}

Regeneration has two effects. First, there is an actual change, wrought by the Holy Spirit, in the person regenerated. This change means the Christian is a new creature (2 Cor. 5:17). It means that he no longer seeks to fulfill the desires of his sinful passions to which he was once enslaved. He is not the same anymore. While the old man could not understand spiritual things (1 Cor. 2:14), the new man can. While the old man was dead in his sins (Eph. 2:1), the new man is not. Because of the Holy Spirit indwelling, the believer has a change in behavior. The believer now turns from sin, and seeks to be more like Christ. His life changes, and this is one of the evidences of the regenerative work of God in a person who has truly trusted in Christ. ^{SMJ2}

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The second effect is found in a changed relationship with God. There is a communion, and an indwelling of God in the person, that was not there before (John 14:23). The regenerate have the Lord Himself indwelling them in a special, relational way. This was non-existent before regeneration. ^{SMJ2}

Repentance

Biblically, repentance has a range of meanings. It can mean: to have regret, to change one's mind, and change one's behavior. In the New Testament, it means, "_____." Therefore, repentance is: _____ from sin, to God. Repentance is the "side-effect" of regeneration. We do not repent from our sins in order to become regenerated; that would be salvation by works. Instead, when we believe in Christ, when we trust in the work of God, we have been regenerated. Because of this regeneration, this change in us, resulting in being made new creatures in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17), we are then able to repent from our sins. We are able to resist sin, and turn from it to the power of the Holy Spirit, Who indwells us. The Holy Spirit, then, bears fruit in us (Gal. 5:22-23). ^{SMJ2}

Jesus taught repentance (Mark 1:14-15). John the Baptist taught repentance (Matt. 3:1-2). God calls us to repentance (Acts 17:30). Paul taught repentance (Rom. 2:4). Peter taught repentance (2 Pet. 3:9). ^{SMJ2}

Obviously, repentance is an important Biblical topic. It is a call to dependence upon Him, and not ourselves. God wants us to repent. He wants us to turn from sin, to righteousness. He wants us to be holy, because He is holy (1 Pet. 1:15-16). Repentance is a natural part of salvation. ^{SMJ2}

Sanctification – AG Fundamental Truth #9

The Assemblies of God ninth Fundamental Truth states the following:

Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil, and of dedication unto God (Romans 12:1,2; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:12). Scriptures teach a life of "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14). By the power of the Holy Ghost we are able to obey the command: "Be ye holy, for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:15,16). ^{AG1}

Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing his identification with Christ in His death and resurrection, and by faith reckoning daily upon the fact of that union, and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit (Romans 6:1-11,13; 8:1,2,13; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:12,13; 1 Peter 1:5). ^{AG1}

Sanctification means, "to be set _____ for _____." The Sabbath is sanctified, as were instruments in the temple. The Christian's body is sanctified (1 Cor. 6:20). We are sanctified so that we might proclaim God (1 Pet. 2:9). Wives are to be sanctified by their husbands (Eph. 5:26). Our sanctification is due to the sacrifice of Christ (Heb. 10:10). In fact, Jesus was sanctified for the ministry (John 10:36). As you can see, being sanctified means that Christians are _____ from the profane and secular, and _____ for the Lord (Rom. 6:19). ^{SMJ2}

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This sanctification is a process that God puts us through, to make us more like Jesus. Whereas justification is an instantaneous legal declaration by God, sanctification occurs over the whole lifetime of a person. In justification we are passive; we receive it. In sanctification we are active; we cooperate with God. We are put through the process of sanctification. That is, we are made more like Christ, as the Holy Spirit works through us daily, as we hear the Word of God preached, as we seek the face of God in prayer, as we repent from our sins, and as we pick up our cross daily, and follow the Lord Jesus (Luke 9:23). ^{SMJ2}

Justification	Sanctification
Instantaneous declaration from God	Process through life
Legal standing before God	Internal condition
Entirely God's work	Man cooperates with God
Fully accomplished now	Yet to be fully accomplished

SMJ2

Essentially, sanctification deals with the moral condition of our heart. It is a process by which God patiently, lovingly, and sovereignly convicts us of our sins, that we might turn from them, and be used of God. Sanctification is the process of removal of pride and selfishness from the innermost parts of our being. The more sanctified we are, the more we care for others, the more we sacrifice for others, the more humble we are in our hearts, the more at peace we are with our lives, and the more we are like Christ in our character. ^{SMJ2}

Sanctification increases over time. The older we get, the more like Christ we are supposed to be. Throughout our entire lives, we work toward better and better sanctification, but we will never achieve perfect sanctification, because we still war with the flesh, and with our sinfulness. When we die, the process of sanctification will cease, and we will be with the Lord. Nevertheless, the complete fulfillment of our sanctification occurs at our resurrection, when we are united with our glorified bodies: "When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory," (Col. 3:4). ^{SMJ2}

Week 3 Conclusion and Challenge

Today we learned some basics about Creation and the Fall, Salvation and Sanctification of Man. The ending of our lesson naturally leads to the topic of the lesson planned for next week, End Time Topics.

Week 3 Challenge

I challenge you to memorize two of the following Bible verses (as shown below) by next Sunday. At the beginning of class next week I'll ask for someone to say these from memory. The first one to raise their hand and say two of the Scriptures from memory will earn a prize. I hope to see you all next week. Until then, I pray you have a blessed week.

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Genesis 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

1 John 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

Galatians 3:24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Week 3 Review Questions

On what day of the creation was man created?

What is sin?

What is the result of sin?

From what are we saved?

What does sanctification mean?

Does sanctification increase over time?

What is justification?

Does justification increase over time?