

Doctrine Ch. 5-6

Ch. 5: The Fall

Introduction: A proper understanding of the Fall not only is the foundation for a Christian worldview, but a necessary component of the gospel.

Discussion: Your unbelieving friend asks you, "If God knew Adam and Eve would sin and cause evil things to come about, why did He allow it? How can He both all-knowing and good?"

Examination:

1. What is theodicy? P.165
2. What is sin? P.148-150 What is evil? P.154 Are they the same?
3. What is the distinction between omission and commission in regards to sin? P.151
4. What are the consequences of original sin? Gen. 3
5. What is the difference between total depravity and utter depravity? P.157
6. How necessary is the book of Genesis in understanding and explaining the gospel?
7. If God has only two categories for humanity (in Adam or in Christ), what does this mean for the "good man on the island?"
8. What is a scriptural understanding of the "flesh?" What are common misunderstandings? P.160 Gal. 5:19-21

Application:

1. Read Acts 17: 22-31. How does Paul use secular culture to help explain the gospel? In regards to the Fall, what specific ways can we follow his example?
2. In what specific ways has the Fall affected our understanding of the "good?" What are you doing to correct the problem? p.146
3. Reread Augustine p.154. Do you view your sin as vile as Augustine did? As vile as God does?
4. What are some ordinary demonic works you have witnessed? P.161
5. How do the following common philosophies/religions misinterpret the problem of sin: materialism, psychologism, humanism, environmentalism, Catholicism? Have you ever found yourself buying into any of these wrong beliefs?
6. James 5:16 Are you faithful in obedience to this scripture?

Ch. 6: Covenant

Introduction: God has chosen the avenue of a *covenant* as the plan for the redemption of humanity and creation.

Discussion: What role or value does the OT Law have in the life of a believer or unbeliever today?

Examination:

1. Covenant recap:
a. _____ b. _____ c. _____
d. _____ e. _____
2. What is Covenant theology? _____ What is Dispensationalism?

3. What is the law/gospel distinction? What is its significance to you?

Martin Luther wrote: "Hence, whoever knows well this art of distinguishing between Law and Gospel, him place at the head and call him a doctor of Holy Scripture."

4. What is the difference between imperative and indicative mood and who cares?! ☺ Phil. 2:12,13

" So many of us cavalierly gloss over what he has done and zero in on what we're to do, and that shift, though it might seem slight, makes all the difference in the world." www.reasonablechristian.blogspot.com