

Creation to Adam

A) God the Creator

The eternal God

- Heb 11:3
- Who made God then ? Gen 1 In the beginning
- God not created - Eternal - Outside time
- Time Chart
- Ps 90:2-4 Thousand years like a day
- Deut 33:27 The eternal God is your refuge
 - Has always existed
 - He was never made
 - He can never be destroyed
 - He will never end
- Rev 4:8-11
 - who was and is and is to come
 - created all things
 - created by his will
 - Continue by his will & command Heb 1:2-3
 - but not pantheism
- Rev 1:8
 - Alpha, Omega, beginning and end
- YHWH I am

Existence of God

A Philosophical Proofs

- Past - Cosmological proof
 - Where did it come from - a Primary Cause
- Present - Physical proof
 - Beauty and order of creation - a designer behind it all Rom 1:20 Ps 104:24
- Future - Teleological proof
 - Purpose - where is it all going ?

B Testimony of the Human Soul

- Ontological Proof
 - There must be perfection - the summit of all qualities, highest concept of understanding
- Moral proof
 - existence of moral laws, conscience, guilt. A law-giver behind it all. Supreme law-giver
- Psychological proof
 - Desire for happiness and peace in the human soul (God-shaped gap)

C Revelation

The bible does not try to prove the existence of God

It is assumed

- Ps 14:1 The fool
- Rom 1:20 Men are without excuse / The heavens declare his handiwork
- Heb 11:6 A sign of our faith
- God has revealed himself in history, his word, his Son
 - God says "I am here!"

Before Creation ? Pre-creation Eternity

- Relationship with the Son of God John 17:5,24 God is Love John 1:1 With God
- Creation of Angels (Job 38:47)
- Chose those who were to be saved Eph 1:4-5 2 Tim 1:9
- Predestined the glory of the saved 1 Cor 2:7-10
- Seeing the course of History chose his son to be the saviour 1 Peter 1:19-20 (Heb 9:14 eternal spirit)

Method of Creation

- God's word or command Gen 1 Heb 11:3
- Jer 10:12-13, 51:15-16
 - Power
 - wisdom
 - Understanding
- Prov 8:30 Wisdom the craftsman at his side
- Were you there Job 38:4
- The Son of God John 1 Col 1:15-19 Heb 1:1-3
- Neh 9:5-6 Declaration of the works of the creator (Acts 4:24 - the basis of faith for prayer)
- Is 40: 12-27
 - Creator of the earth
 - Wise
 - mighty
 - Incomparable - other "gods" are no gods
 - Eternal
 - Director of history
 - Creator of Universe - size
 - Helper to mankind

The days of creation

- 1 Light Darkness - energy ?
- 2 Water and Atmosphere - liquid and gases
- 3 Land Vegetation - solids
- 4 cf 1 Detail of Light & darkness
- 5 cf 2 Population of water & atmosphere
- 6 cf 3 Population of Land animals and man

Interpretations

Vary a lot

- How literal
 - How long
 - How it happened
 - My rev - stars and limestone
- Important to hold on to
- God created all the material in the universe
 - Nothing exists without his creation
 - There are no other creators
 - He created out of nothing by his word of command
 - He is not part of the universe - it is not just an extension of him
 - He sustains the universe
 - He is the owner of the universe Ps 24:1-2
 - He can intervene in the function of universe history Pr 21:1 the king's heart, kingdoms of Daniel, prophecy, miracles, incarnation, Sinai etc.
 - Although part of the universe in rebellion against him, they continue to exist by his permission. He is absolutely sovereign and is only bound by his own word.
 - Man is the crown of God's creation - Special made in the image of God.

B) Man made in the image of God

Image of God

Does God have arms and legs ?

Obviously in our physical make-up we resemble animals

- Secular sociology - just an advanced animal - secular psychology - reductionism - nothing buttery
- Just a bag of chemicals - a chemical machine
- Nothing buttery
- The bible says - you are made in the image of

god

- Gen 1:26-27 - male and female
- God is a person Ch 1 God, Ch2 God/YHWH, Ch 3 YHWH

Personality

A person who can know and be known

Capable of love

Moral / conscience

Freedom of will - able to chose - responsible

Vocation to rule

Vocation in Eden

- To rule
v 26 sea, ari, earth, 28 subdue, name:science 2:19
- To care for the earth 2:15
- To enjoy 2:8-14
Pleasin to eye - artistic aesthetic
Good for food - enjoyment also minerals (fun laughter)
- To work 2:15 Frustration when no work
- Enjoy family and community
2:18 - not good to be alone institution of marriage
1:28 - fruitful and increase in number - sex good before the fall - made for relationship to love and to beloved
- Friendship with God 3:8
walking with God, friendship, fellowship, worth in God's sight, fatherhood of God
- Obey God 2:16
One command, Man is responsible, judgment, called to account
- Eternal life - tree of life
Gen 2:9 - No restriction in eden
Gen 3:22-23 - Way to eternal life
Rev 2:7 - for overcomers
Rev 22:2 - Healing of nature
Rev 22:14 - washing robes
Rev 22:19 - warning
Jesus hung on a tree ?

Eden - the place of a wonderful beginning
- the arena of a tragic collapse

C) The existence of the Devil

Origin

- Gen 3
- New Character the Serpent
- Identified Rev 12:9
- Bible veiled about his origin
Luke 10:18, Rev 12:7-9, Job 1-2, Is 14:12-15, Ezek 28:12-19
angel with great responsibility
Rebelle against God with others
Influence over world - against God
Will eventually be destroyed
- Somewhere the rebellion of Satan with lesser engels who became demons (1 Tim 3:6, 1 John 3:8, 2 Peter 2:4, Jude 6, 1 Pter 3:19, Gen 6:1-4)
- God is still sovereign and activity of Satan and demons only by permission of God.

Nature

Liar and murderer John 8:44

- Cast doubt on the word of God
- v1 did God really say ?
- subtle assault on god's word - misquote

- cf - If you are the Son of God just after this is my beloved son
- Eve responds with God's command preumably taught by Adam

Direct contradiction of God's Word

- You will not surely die - devil is a liar
 - Doubt on the judgement of God
 - All will be saved - there is no hell, no judgement, everthing will be OK. Doubts about God's judgment are from the pit!
 - Doubt on the integrity of God
 - God is a spoilsport
 - God is trying to hide good things from you
 - Experient with sin - dont be narrow-minded
 - Obeying God will rob you of the riches of this life
 - Temptation to have knowledge like God
- Tactic - Going for Eve not Adam
- Playing dirty goes for the vulnerable - the jugular!

D) The Fall

Eve falls to the tempter

- Good for food - bodily appetites
- Pleasing to the eye - aesthetic, artistic temptation
- Good for knowledge - Sin in the interests of gaining more wisdom or knowledge - intellectual temptation
- Gave to her husband who was with her

Man and Woman

Man is head of his wife - order of creation 1 Cor 11:7-10, Eph 4

Eve was deceived in Eden 1 Tim 2:11-15

- Reason why woman should not teach
Eve listened to serpent ignored command of God and teaching of her husband
- Usurped the divine order by leading her husband
- Adam also responsible
- He was there
- He should have protected his wife
- Should have refused to follow her example
- Instead he abdicated his headship
- Taught by his wife
- Adam is held responsible for our sinful nature
Rom 5:12

Result of Fall

Fig leaves

- Symbolic aof shame - new feeling - guilt
- New awareness of good and evil. Before fall sex part of wholesome life together. perhaps eyes suddenly opned to the crude and rude use of sex - distorted, deviant, jokes, self centred, self gratification (as opposed to love) - Immorality had entered the heart of man

The Trees (v8)

- Sin - Barriers between human beings
- Barriers between us and God
- Guilt, hiding, broken relationships

Mankind's response

- No repentance
- Shifting of blame to Eve
- Indirectly blaming God for making Eve
- Eve shifts blame to the serpent

The Curses

Serpent

- Curse on snakes as the vehicle of Satan. Fear and enmity which is still there - but deeper meaning
- (v15) Mankind would struggle against the Devil and his offspring
Devil's offspring - you are of your father the devil Phar.
Godly offspring - Godly line and Jesus
- first reference to the the victory of Jesus (v 15)

Woman

- Pain in childbearing - origin of this real physical pain
- Also pain in bringing forth sinful children bearing the sinful nature of Adam and Eve
- Desire and Rule - relationship between the sexes disturbed by the fall

Male chauvanism

subconsciously blames woman for sin
afraid of being usurped by her
defends himself by dominating her
exploits her
abuses God's order in marriage
Sexually - porn, advertising, prostitution etc.
Socially - double standards of faithfulness
Economically - cheap labour

Feminism

Mistrusts man who failed her at her point of temptation
responds defensively by domination of man
rebellion against God's order

Man

- v 17 Listened to his wife
- Ground cursed - served man before, will now be used as judgment against him
- fall of creation rom 8:19 - entrance of death, decay, disease into creation around main aim in his own body
- The image of God is a spoilt, broken image

Animal Skins

- First animal sacrifice by God (NB Adam and Eve vegetarians)
- Without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins - Cross
- Fig leaves - symbolic of man's poor attempt to cover up sin - false religion - cursing of the fig tree

Tree of Life

The way is barred

Death

Who was right, God or Satan - did Adam and Eve die ?!!

The wages of sin is death

- Spiritual Death - immediate
- Physical Death - Adam at 930 years old

death a punishment for unbeliever
the sting of death is sin

- Eternal Death - the second death - we do not know about Adam whether he repented or not

Jesus - came to save us from death and the curse

- Spiritually alive
- Physical death still a physical necessity for believer but no longer a punishment but an entry into life with God. Some may never taste death - not a necessity for Christians
- Restoration of the broken image - to be like him - the one who never fell. (Diagram)
- The Devil is a liar and murderer
Jesus is the truth and the life
- The reason the Son of God was revealed was to destroy the work of the evil one.

E) Adam's Offspring - Cain and Abel