

## Man and His Problem with Sin

As Frank read the morning paper, he became disgusted. “Almost every story in this paper is about a violent murder, another school shooting, a young woman being brutally raped, or an old couple being beaten and robbed! What is this world coming to? All we hear about is violence and evil. What’s wrong with people?”

Have you ever felt like Frank? This world is an evil place and it seems like it is getting worse by the day. Why is there so much evil in the world? How can people be so mean and cruel to one another? Is there any solution to this problem?

Those questions will be addressed in this week’s lesson. You will learn what the Bible says about the origin and nature of man, as well as why man has a problem with sin.

### The Origin and Nature of Man

**Genesis 2:7-8** What raw material did God use to create man?

What did God breathe into man?

Man is unique in this respect. God created all the animals, fish, and birds, but God **only** breathed life into man, making man a living soul.

**Genesis 1:26-27** In whose image and likeness did God make man?

Again, man is unique in all of creation. We alone are made in the image of God. This truth is not only taught in the Old Testament. Read on.

**James 3:9** What does this verse say about men?

**Genesis 1:28** What did God tell man about the animals, fish, and birds?

**Genesis 1:29-31** God provided food for all the living creatures. What did God say about His creation?

**Genesis 2:18** What did God say man needed?

**Genesis 2:19-22** There was not a suitable companion found for Adam among the animals, so what did God do?

**Genesis 2:23-25** God instituted marriage in these verses. That is another way man is different from the animals.

**Genesis 9:1-4** After the flood, God again told man he was superior to all the animals. He said all the animals would fear man and they could be food for us.

**Genesis 9:5-6** What did God say should happen to any man or animal that killed a human being?

**Let's summarize.** Man (along with everything else in the universe) was created by God. We didn't evolve and slowly emerge from the primordial ooze – God created us. The Bible further says we are made in the image of God. As such, man is different and superior to all other creatures on earth. Now let's deal with a question that has troubled mankind for centuries.

### **Why is there Sin in the World?**

- Genesis 3:1-3** Satan's first tactic is always to cast doubt on God's Word. What did the serpent ask?
- Genesis 3:4-6** Satan called God a liar (compare **Genesis 2:17**). Eve fell for Satan's lies, so she and Adam ate the forbidden fruit. Sin always looks so tempting!
- Genesis 3:7-8** Sin results in shame and guilt. What did Adam and Eve do after they sinned?
- Genesis 3:9-13** God questioned them. Adam blamed Eve and Eve blamed the serpent.
- Genesis 3:14-19** Because of man's sin, God cursed the serpent, the woman, the man, and even the earth.
- Genesis 3:20-21** What did God do to cover their nakedness?
- Because of sin, blood had to be shed. An innocent animal died so the shame of man's sin could be temporarily covered up.
- Romans 5:12** What has happened as a result of Adam's sin?
- Because of Adam's sin, all humans are born under sin and face the penalty of death. That's what's wrong with the world! Read **Romans 5:13-21**.
- Romans 6:23** What is the result of sin?
- What is the gift of God?

**Concluding Thoughts:** God created man in His own image. Before sin entered the world, man had perfect fellowship with God. Adam sinned, causing all his descendants (us) to be born under sin. We are all sinners by nature, and also sinners by choice. We choose sin because it seems so tempting and pleasurable, but the consequences are always bad.

That's what's wrong with the world. Because of sin, our world is filled with violence, evil, and wickedness. Man has an inborn problem with sin. That's why Jesus Christ came into the world. He died on the cross to pay for the sins of those who trust Him.

If you don't know Jesus as your Savior, ask Him to save you right now. If you're already saved, thank Him for dying in your place.

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**Project:** As you hear news stories this week about evil and violence, stop and thank the Lord for paying the price for your sin.