



The Discipleship Project of Horizon Central

Level #1 Series #1 Study #2

Topic: Humanity

1. Does the origin of the human race make any difference at all? If we were specially created by God, or evolved accidentally from lesser beings, or were transplanted here by aliens from another world, how would that impact our understanding of ourselves today?
2. The Bible tells us that God made man (male and female) in his own image and gave him dominion over all the other creatures on earth and, furthermore, that this was very good. See **Genesis 1:26-27, 31** and **5:2**. By the way, sometimes the Bible uses “gender neutral” language to refer to humanity; other times, as here, the Bible uses a word that applies best to the male inclusively to refer to them both.
3. God formed man’s body from the dirt or “dust of the ground”, but breathed into him the “breath of life.” The Hebrew words for “Adam” and “earth” or “land” are related. We are, at the same time, both natural and supernatural beings. See **Genesis 2:7**.
4. God’s explanation for the creation of male and female is found in **Genesis 2:18-25**. There is no inferiority implied in the woman’s role as the helper. In fact it is a term that the Bible often uses about God in relation to us. See **Psalms 10:14, 30:10** and **54:4**.
5. But now we do not see things as they once were. Man rebelled against God’s authority. The Bible calls this rebellion “sin”. Sin caused Adam and Eve to hide from God’s presence and brought death into the world. See **Genesis 3:9-13** and **Romans 5:12**.
6. From all of this we can come to two conclusions: First, all people on earth are related since we share our original common ancestors. Second, the whole human race is reeling under the effects of human sin. See **Acts 17:26-27**.
7. If we all share a created nature in the image of God, what should we think of ourselves and other people?
8. In order to neutralize the effects of sin, God has provided the perfect mediator between people and Himself. Jesus is called “God with us” in **Matthew 1:23** and a man in **1 Timothy 2:5**.
9. Ultimately, God wants us to enjoy eternal life in fellowship with Him through Jesus Christ His Son, whom He sent into the world. One place we see this is in Christ’s prayer in **John 17:1-5**.
10. What do you think of the Bible’s explanation of creation in God’s image, sin (or rebellion) and death? How about God becoming a man in Jesus Christ? Is all of this adequate to explain the situation we see in the world today? Why or why not?