

The Doctrine of Man - Part 6

Title: Man in Relationship



What were the original responsibilities and restrictions imposed upon man?

A. His responsibilities.

1. Man was to assume the headship over all nature:

Gen 1:26 NLT:

26 Then God said, “Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground.”

Ps 8:6-8 NLT:

6 You gave them charge of everything you made,
putting all things under their authority—

7 the flocks and the herds

and all the wild animals,

8 the birds in the sky, the fish in the sea,

and everything that swims the ocean currents.

The New Testament makes it clear that man was made to eventually assume headship over the entire universe:

Heb 2:5-8 NLT:

Jesus, the Man

5 And furthermore, it is not angels who will control the future world we are talking about.

6 For in one place the Scriptures say,

“What are mere mortals that you should think about them,

or a son of man that you should care for him?

7 Yet for a little while you made them a little lower than the angels
and crowned them with glory and honor.

8 You gave them authority over all things.”

Now when it says “all things,” it means nothing is left out. But we have not yet seen all things put under their authority.

2. Man was to make his headquarters in Eden and especially to care for this beautiful garden paradise:

Gen 2:15 NLT:

15 The LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it.



3. Man was to provide names for every living creature:

Gen 2:19-20 NLT:

19 So the LORD God formed from the ground all the wild animals and all the birds of the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would call them, and the man chose a name for each one.

20 He gave names to all the livestock, all the birds of the sky, and all the wild animals. But still there was no helper just right for him.

4. Man was to love and protect his wife.

A. Eve was removed from the side of Adam:

Gen 2:18 NLT:

18 Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him."

Gen 2:21 NLT:

21 So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep. While the man slept, the LORD God took out one of the man's ribs and closed up the opening.

B. Eve was returned to the side of Adam:

Gen 2:22-24 NLT:

22 Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib, and he brought her to the man.

23 “At last!” the man exclaimed.

“This one is bone from my bone,

and flesh from my flesh!

She will be called ‘woman,’

because she was taken from ‘man.’”

24 This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.

5. Man was to reproduce himself and populate the earth with his kind:

Gen 1:28 NLT:

28 Then God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground.”

6. Man was to enjoy all the fruits of the various trees (except one:

Gen 2:16 NLT:

16 But the LORD God warned him, “You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden—

B. His restrictions.

Man was forbidden to partake of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil:

Gen 2:17 NLT:

17 except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die.”

Here is the first mention of death in the Bible.

In reality there are two kinds of death described by the Scriptures: physical death and spiritual death.

Both kinds of death can be defined by the one word: separation. Thus:

1. Physical death is the earthly separation of the soul from the body:

Gen 5:5 NLT:

5 Adam lived 930 years, and then he died.



Spiritual death is the eternal separation of the sinner from the Savior:

Matt 25:41 NLT:

41 “Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, ‘Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons.

Here in Genesis 2:17, God may have been warning Adam he would suffer both deaths for disobedience, as the Hebrew can be rendered, “and in dying” (physical death), “thou shalt surely die” (spiritual death).

As there are two deaths described in the Bible, there are also two births.

Our Lord referred to both births when speaking to Nicodemus.

Two births, two deaths.

John 3:3 NLT:

3 Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God.”

John 3:6 NLT:

6 Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life.

With this in mind, consider:

1. To have but one birth means to eventually die twice.

The unbeliever will suffer both physical and spiritual death:

Heb 9:27 NLT:

27 And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment,

2. To have two births means to eventually die but once and maybe not even then.

The believer will never die spiritually (John 3:16), and may never die physically (1 Cor 15:51).

John 3:16 NLT:

16 “For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

1 Cor 15:51 NLT:

51 But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed!



What is man's position or status in relation to animals, angels, and each other?

A. People are superior to animals:

Gen 1:28 NLT:

28 Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."

Gen 9:1 NLT:

God Confirms His Covenant

1 Then God blessed Noah and his sons and told them, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth.

Ps 8:4 NLT:

4 what are mere mortals that you should think about them,
human beings that you should care for them?

Ps 8:6-8 NLT:

6 You gave them charge of everything you made,
putting all things under their authority—

7 the flocks and the herds
and all the wild animals,

8 the birds in the sky, the fish in the sea,
and everything that swims the ocean currents.

Matt 12:12 NLT:

**12 And how much more valuable is a person than a sheep!
Yes, the law permits a person to do good on the Sabbath.”**

B. People are lower than the angels.

Ps 8:5 NLT:

5 Yet you made them only a little lower than God
and crowned them with glory and honor.

C. People are equal before God.

Ps 33:13 NLT:

13 The LORD looks down from heaven
and sees the whole human race.

Prov 22:2 NLT:

2 The rich and poor have this in common:
The LORD made them both.

Matt 23:8 NLT:

8 “Don’t let anyone call you ‘Rabbi,’ for you have only one teacher, and all of you are equal as brothers and sisters.

Acts 17:26 NLT:

26 From one man he created all the nations throughout the whole earth. He decided beforehand when they should rise and fall, and he determined their boundaries.

Rom 2:11 NLT:

11 For God does not show favoritism.



How is man different from animals?



Schlossberg and Hazlitt touch on a major factor in distinguishing humans from the rest of the animal kingdom, but there are at least **thirteen major areas in which fundamental differences can be clearly identified.**

A. Man intrinsically walks upright. ... [T]he curved shape of the human spine gives unique advantages for seeing, face-to-face body language, and speaking without any change of head position. The other major physical distinction is that humans have two hands and two feet.

B. Man has vastly superior intelligence. He can accumulate, remember and evaluate masses of information on an immense variety of subjects, and then act rationally as a result.

C. Man is a historical and political being, one who is aware of his past, has developed a cultural tradition and makes laws and rules of behavior to govern his social life.

D. Man possesses qualities not only of consciousness, but of self-awareness, which lead him to reflect on his identity and relevance. ... All other living creatures are conscious; man alone is self-conscious. Unlike anything else we know of in the universe, man asks “Why?” as well as “What?” He thinks about meaning and purpose. ... He has an inbuilt sense of dignity. ... He is able to look beyond his own immediate and direct experiences, and wonder about his origin and destiny. He thinks (more often than he cares to admit) about death and what may lie beyond.

E. Man has the unique ability to use propositional language, employing sophisticated syntax. ... **Noam Chomsky** explains that the ability to learn language is a unique feature of what it means to be human.

F. Man is capable of complex reasoning, lateral thinking and the development of theories and insights. ...

G. Man has mathematical skills. ...

H. Man’s cultural and scientific achievements are on a vastly different scale from anything accomplished by any other creatures. ...

I. Man has an aesthetic dimension, an innate sense of beauty which, like goodness and truth, eludes scientific analysis. He is able to assess the relative qualities of form, texture, color, order and design. He is endlessly creative in composing music and making pictures and other objects, not merely for practical purposes, but for his personal enjoyment or to express meaning. ...

J. Man is not governed by instinct. ...

K. Man is unique in his relationships with the opposite sex. Man is free to love one person before another, and is free to choose the level of his affection. ...

L. Man has a moral dimension, a stubborn perception that there is a difference between right and wrong. ...

M. Most significantly in the context of our present study, man has a spiritual dimension. He has what theologians call - **sensus divinitatis**, a sense of deity. ...**(John Blanchard, Does God Believe in Atheists? Evangelical Press, 2003, pp. 324-330)**



How do we obtain the Forgiveness of our Sins?



How do we get right with God, regardless of our individual sins?

Just say this Prayer and all of your sins will be forgotten, and you will have Eternal life, with Christ Jesus, in Heaven:

Lord Jesus, I repent of all my sins, and I ask you to come into my life and be my Lord and Savior.

Friends, if you prayed that prayer, I believe that you are born again, and you have everlasting life, get in a good bible teaching church, and may you keep growing, in the Lord, and may HE use you to help save many souls for His Kingdom !

In, Jesus Mighty Name!

Rev. Jesus Del Rio, Ed