

## Session 11: The Doctrine of Man & The Doctrine of Sin (Chapters 26 and 27)

### The Doctrine of Man

#### 4 Major Subdivisions of the Doctrine of Man:

1. **Basis:** Salvation is a *gift* God gives to those that believe.
  - Man's main purpose is to "know God and enjoy Him forever." Man was *created* in perfect fellowship and harmony with God, in His image. This doesn't mean physical likeness, but psychological, emotional, and spiritual likeness of God.
2. **Result:** Man has a *spiritual* as well as a physical dimension.
  - Man's physical body is destined to die but his spirit lives forever and transcends his physical limits. After man dies, he receives a new body that lives forever.
3. **Cost:** Man has *capacities* that go beyond those of any animals and mark him as the pinnacle of God's creation.
  - Capacities:
    - a. Intellect = With intellect he can know, reason and think.
    - b. Emotion = With emotion he can feel, empathize, and experience.
    - c. Will = With will he can choose.
    - d. Self-awareness, an awareness of God, and awareness of afterlife, and the ability to envision life in the future under different scenarios such as heaven and hell, etc.
4. **Timing:** Man will live *forever* in heaven or hell.
  - Man's spirit inhabits a body at all times, but the body changes after death on earth. A new body is received in which he will continue to live forever
  - Destiny in hell is portrayed as agonizing torment but little is known of the specifics of that torment.
  - Destiny in heaven is pictured in great detail. The heavenly body is beautiful beyond imagination, exceedingly powerful, and not subject to time and space limitations. The citizen of heaven will rule in the celestial realm and will possess power, wisdom and unbounded creativity.

## The Doctrine of Sin

### 4 Major Subdivisions of the Doctrine of Sin:

1. **Nature:** Sin is any lack of conformity to the moral *perfections* of God. All unrighteousness is sin. (1 John 5:17)
2. **Fall:** The separation of Adam and Eve from God in the Garden of Eden because of original sin.
  - All the pain and evil and suffering in the world can be traced back to one event: when Adam and Eve disobeyed God in the Garden. Thus, it is referred to as the Fall of man.
3. **Corruption:** Mankind as a whole was *corrupted* by the original Fall. Sin entered mankind, and now all men are corrupted by sin. (We can't keep from doing what is bad because our essential nature has been corrupted.)
4. **Rebellion:** Because man's internal nature has been corrupted by sin, he cannot keep from committing *personal* sins.
  - Man's heart has been corrupted so he commits individual, personal sins. Some of the sins are sins of commission (things we shouldn't do but do) and omission (things we should do but don't.) They might be tangible acts, but could also be deficient attitudes, motives, or perspectives.

### **James 3:13-17**