

# Session 4

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## I. Question—What is wrong with the world and me?

*Your view of the problem will determine your view of the solution.*

## II. Survey of Key Passages

### CREATION

#### Genesis 1:1

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

#### Genesis 1:31

*God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.*

**Big Idea:** God created all that exists, and He made it perfectly good.

### ANGELS

#### Colossians 1:16

*For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.*

**Big Idea:** God created all of the “invisible” beings, meaning angels.

#### Hebrews 1:13-14

*To which of the angels did God ever say, “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet”?*

<sup>14</sup>*Are not all angels ministering-spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?*

**Big Idea:** Angels are immaterial spirit-beings made to serve God and His people.

## **1 Peter 1:12**

*It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.*

**Big Idea:** Angels do not know everything, but they learn like us.

## **HUMANS**

### **Genesis 1:26a**

*Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness..."*

**Big Idea:** God made mankind to be a picture of His character.

### **Genesis 2:7**

*Then the LORD God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.*

**Big Idea:** God made humans with both a material (body) and immaterial (soul or spirit) part.

### **Genesis 1:26-27**

*Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."*

*<sup>27</sup> So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.*

**Big Idea:** God made mankind to be a picture of His character and rule on earth, and this picture is expressed in both male and female genders together.

## **THE FALL**

### **Genesis 3:1-7**

*Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'"*

*<sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"*

*<sup>4</sup> "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. <sup>5</sup> "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*

*<sup>6</sup> When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.*

### **Genesis 3:8-14, 16-17, 19, 23-24**

*Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" <sup>10</sup> He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." <sup>11</sup> And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" <sup>12</sup> The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it." <sup>13</sup> Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." <sup>14</sup> So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals!... <sup>16</sup> To the woman he said, "I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you." <sup>17</sup> To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you. . . ." <sup>19</sup> "By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return. . . ." <sup>23</sup> So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. <sup>24</sup> After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.*

### **Romans 5:18-19**

*Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. <sup>19</sup> For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.*

**Big Idea:** All mankind was condemned as guilty when Adam sinned.

### **Ephesians 4:17-19**

*So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking.<sup>18</sup> They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.<sup>19</sup> Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.*

**Big Idea:** Every person has a sinful nature, which means they are inclined to sinful choices.

### **James 1:13-15**

*When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone;<sup>14</sup> but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.<sup>15</sup> Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.*

**Big Idea:** Every person sins personally when they give in to sinful desires and choose to sin.

### **Romans 1:18, 21-23**

*The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness...*

*<sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.*

**Big Idea:** Sin is turning from God toward anything that is contrary to His nature and purpose.

### **1 John 2:15-16**

*Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. <sup>16</sup> For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.*

**Big Idea:** Sins consist of many different temptations that are all contrary to the Father.

### **Romans 3:9-12**

*What shall we conclude then? Do we have any advantage? Not at all! For we have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under the power of sin. <sup>10</sup>As it is written:*

*“There is no one righteous, not even one; <sup>11</sup>there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. <sup>12</sup>All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.”*

**Big Idea:** Every single person is guilty and sinful.

### **Romans 6:23a**

*For the wages of sin is death, but...*

### **III. Summary of Biblical Truth**

1. God originally made everything that exists, and He made it good without any flaw or evil.
2. God made mankind with material and immaterial parts in His image to know Him and make Him known in creation.
3. Because of the Fall, every person is guilty, sinful, and sinning.
4. The fallen person is unable to do what is right and pleasing to God.
5. The penalty for our sin is the wrath of God and death.

### **Doctrinal Statement of Fellowship Bible Church of Northwest Arkansas**

**Man...** We believe that man was directly created in the image of God to enjoy His fellowship and to fulfill God's will on earth. Man sinned by voluntary act of personal disobedience to the will of God; as a result, all men are spiritually dead and subject to the certainty of physical death. The fall of man was a non-repeatable historical fact; the effects of which are transmitted to all men, each of whom is born with a sinful nature and sins habitually in thought, word, and deed.

—Genesis 1:26-27; 2:7; 3:3-4; Romans 1:18-32; 3:10-23; Ephesians 2:1-3

### **IV. Scripture to Memorize**

*For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.*

—Romans 5:19



## **V. Difficult Questions and Objections**

1. Where did evil come from?
2. Isn't the Bible sexist?
3. What about babies who haven't sinned yet?
4. What about scientific evidence against Creation?
5. How can I be guilty for someone else's mistake?

## VI. Application to Life

1. In worship (What should I praise God for?)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. In discipleship  
(What should I repent of? or How should I trust and obey?)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. On mission (Why does this matter for lost people?)

