

What Missionary Baptists Believe About...

The Doctrine of Man

--Job 7:17 – What do we believe about man?

1. Religion is divided in it's thinking about man.
2. Evolution has given rise to many misunderstandings of man.
3. Missionary Baptists believe the Bible offers foundational knowledge to the correct understanding of man.
4. They believe the Bible has information that cannot be obtained elsewhere.
5. They believe that no science that deals with man is complete or absolutely reliable without knowledge of Bible truths on the subject.
6. The questions: "Where did man come from", "What is his purpose", "Where is he going", can only be answered from the Bible.

I. THE ORIGIN OF MAN

1. The Scriptures clearly teach that man was created by God. Gen 1:27; 2:7
 - a. This statement is a fact
 - b. This is true of man's body, spirit, soul, mind and characteristics.
2. The scriptures teach that man is a result of an act of immediate divine creation. Gen 2:7; Job 32:8; Eccl 12:7; Zech 12:1
 - a. There is no foundation in the Scriptures for the belief of the evolution of man.
 - b. The New Testament Church stands firm in its denial of the theory of evolution.
 - c. In fact, the Bible clearly declares the theory of evolution to be a lie -- I Cor 15:39.
3. The scriptures teach that man was created in the image and likeness of God. Gen 1:26
 - a. With that statement, it is quite clear that animals were not.
 - b. Man was morally pure, and without sin.
4. The Bible teaches that man was created a three-fold creature. I Thes 5:23
5. Man was created with the freedom of choice.
 - a. This power of volition (choice) is of great importance.
6. Man was created with limited authority (Gen 1:26), but yet under the command of God. Gen 2:15-17

II. THE FALL OF MAN

1. The Bible teaches the man voluntarily transgressed the Divine Law of God. Gen 2:16,17; 3:1-6; I Tim 2:13,14
 - a. Thus, man fell:
 1. Not only from grace – but into the possibility of saving grace.
 2. From a state of harmonious fellowship with God. Gen 3:8-10

3. From a state of moral purity and sinlessness. Gen 3:11,12
4. From a state of spiritual life into spiritual death. Gen 2:17

III. THE EFFECTS OF THE FALL

1. The whole race is sinful. Rom 5:12; Rom 3:9,23
 - a. They are born in sin. Ps 51:5
 - b. They begin life sinning. Ps 58:3
2. The whole race is dead.
 - a. Spiritually. Eph 2:1; John 5:25
 - b. Under the penalty of physical death. Rom 5:12
 - c. Facing eternal death. Ez 18:4; Rom 6:23; Rev 20:14,15
3. The image of God is corrupted.
 - a. After the fall, man was born in man's image. Gen 5:3; Rom 5:12
 - b. The sinner does not possess the ability to comprehend spiritual matters as Adam did before the fall.
 - c. He must be given the mind of Christ in order to understand spiritual matters. I Cor 2:14-16
4. The race is depraved.
 - a. Depraved in heart. Jer 17:9
 - b. Depraved in body. Rom 7:17,18
 - c. Depraved in mind. Rom 8:7
 - d. Depraved in conscience. Heb 10:22
 - e. Depraved in nature.
 1. Void of righteousness. Rom 3:10; Is 64:6
 2. Children of Satan. I John 3:8,10; John 8:44

Conclusion:

Missionary Baptists believe that man came from God as a result of the immediate divine act of creation. They believe that man's sole purpose upon earth is to glorify his creator (Rev 4:11). They believe that the destiny of man revolves around what he decides to do with Jesus Christ. To accept or reject Christ as Savior determines one's destiny.