

Deuteronomy 10:12-17; Proverbs 15:25-33

ABC's of Being A Christian (Hebrews 5:12-14)

➤ Are you a teacher? Are you a discipler? Who are you discipling?

Do You Know the God of the Bible?

- ➤ (John 17:2-3) Eternal life is knowing God. Eternal life is being in a genuine, real, intimate relationship with God.
- ➤ (1 John 2:3-4) Do I know God? Do I have eternal life? Do I obey His commandments?
- ➤ (Genesis 1:1) God revealed Himself the Creator of the universe.
 - → God owns everything and everyone in HIS universe. (Psalm 24:1; 50:12; Exodus 19:5; Deuteronomy 10:14; 1 Chronicles 29:11; Job 41:11) Everything exists and continues to exist <u>for</u> Him, <u>of</u> Him, <u>through</u> Him, and <u>to</u> Him. (Romans 11:33; Hebrews 2:10; Revelation 4:11; Colossians 1:16; Isaiah 45:7; Proverbs 16:4)
 - God created the Earth to be inhabited. (Isaiah 45:18)
 - God created man. (Genesis 1:26-31; 2:7)
 - God planted a Garden. (Genesis 2:8-9)
 - God put man into the Garden to work the Garden. (Genesis 2:8, 15)
 - → God is the Law-Giver. (Isaiah 33:22)
 - → God commanded man. (Genesis 2:16-17)
 - → Since God is the Creator, He is Lord (Acts 17:24). ALL creatures are obligated to do/obey as their Creator and Lord commands. (Deuteronomy 10:12-14; Jeremiah 7:22-23; Micah 6:8; John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10, 13-14; 1 John 2:3-6; 5:1-3)
 - → TODAY, God requires ALL MEN EVERYWHERE to REPENT! (Acts 17:30; **Luke 13:1-5**) Repentance: Turning away of doing things the way you think is right and living your life strictly in accordance with the written Word of God. Anything less is not repentance.

Do You Know Your Enemy? (1 Peter 5:8-9)

- We live in enemy territory! (1 John 5:19)
- Satan is the enemy of Christians. He is our enemy.
- Satan is a master at deceiving, counterfeiting, and disguises. (2 Corinthians 11:13-15; Matthew 7:15; 24:4-5, 11, 25; Ephesians 4:16; 5:6; Colossians 2:8; 1 Timothy 4:1; 2 Timothy 3:13; 4:3; 2 Peter 2:1-3; Jude 4)

Do You Know YOURSELF?

- Why are you who you are?
- Why were you born when you were born?
- Why were you born where you were born?
- Are you an independent person depended on no one?
- Are you a free person, free to do as you please when you please?
- Is your life your life or do you belong to someone else?
- Do you determine your life or is your life determined for you?
- · Why are some men/women so evil?
- Why is there evil in me?
- Who holds your destiny?
- What happens when you die?

A Close Look at Man from God's Perspective

- Do you know yourself? Do you know yourself as you ought to know yourself?
 Do you know yourself as God know you?
- In our ABC's we will look at man as he is revealed in God's Word.
 - Man as God originally created Him.
 - Man falls into sin.
 - Man re-created into a new creature...
 - Man glorified.

The Value of Man in God's Eyes (Genesis 1:26-31)

- The first twenty-five verses of the Bible deal with God and God alone!
 - → But those twenty-five verses was to provide a place for His greatest creation to exist. (Isaiah 45:18)
- MEDITATE ON: The rest of the Bible (ca. 30,978 verses) deal with God dealing with man!
- God created man "in His own image; in the image of God He created both male and female. . ." (Genesis 1:26-27)
 - ★ That image was "in true righteousness and holiness." (Ephesians 4:24).
 - ★ God created man pure, righteous, and holy.
- · God created man with . . .
 - <u>A MIND</u>. God wanted to communicate intelligently through spoken and written word. God gave man the ability to think and reason.

- Man was given a mind to hear and understand God, God plans, and God's ways.
- God communicated instructions to Adam and he understood.
- **EMOTIONS**. God loves (Jer. 31:3), hates (Psalm 5:5; 11:5; Mal. 2:16); feels joy and happiness (Jeremiah 9:24; Zephaniah 3:17)
 - Man was given emotions to respond to God out of love and devotion.
 - God fellowships perfectly within the Trinity, and He made man so that He and His creation might fellowship with Him and each other.
 - This fellowship is a REAL INTIMATE fellowship. It is likened to a husband and wife become one flesh.
- A WILL. God plans and decides. God wills things to happen.
 - Man was given a will so that He could choose to carry out God's plans, commands and work.
- ☆ After God created man He looked and saw that all was VERY good. (Gen1:31)

Appointed Federal Head

- Definition of "federal head": One who enters into a covenant representing others.
- Eve was deceived, yet guilty. When Eve sinned she and she alone sinned.
- Adam was not deceived. When Adam sinned we sinned. (Romans 5:12)
- It does not say, "all men sin therefore all die!"

Consequences of Adam's Sin

- Genesis 3 tells us that man chose Satan's way and NOT God's way.
- MAN FAILED to use that which God gave him for God's glory.
- SIN marred the image that man was created in.
- The image of God was severely damaged, in that:
 - Man's **MIND** <u>understanding</u> and <u>thinking</u> was DARKENED. (Ephesians 4:18)
 - The natural man (fallen man) <u>cannot</u> understand the things of God. (1 Corinthians 2:14)
 - Man's EMOTIONS had now become warped. We love people and the things of the world more that we love God. We are more devoted to the world, family, careers, and friends than we are to God. (Matthew 22:36-38)
 - Consider 1 John 2:15; James 4:4; Matt 10:37-39; Luke 14:26
 - Man's **WILL** was now in bondage to sin, the world, and Satan. We can only choose to sin. We lost not have the ABILITY to choose what is good. (Romans 8:7-8; 6:20; John 8:34, 36)

"... you shall surely die" (Genesis 2:17)

- **DEATH** is the consequence of one man's sin.
- God warned Adam that DISOBEDIENCE would have severe consequences.
- Despite Satan's LIE (Genesis 3:4), God was FAITHFUL to His word.
- Three kinds of DEATH:
 - → Death is SEPARATION.
 - SPIRITUAL DEATH SEPARATION from God. (Ephesians 2:1-2; 4:18: Isaiah 59:2) One is "dead to God".
 - **2** PHYSICAL DEATH **SEPARATION** from our physical body.
 - ETERNAL DEATH SEPARATION from God for eternity in the torments of hell. (See Revelation 21:8)

BUT We See Jesus! (Hebrews 2:9)

- The first Adam, our Federal Head, failed God and all that were in him.
- God did not forsake His people. He sent a "second Adam" (1 Cor 15:45-47)
- God appointed Christ to be the FEDERAL HEAD of ALL that He had given Him before the foundation of the world. (Ephesians 1:4; John 6:37-40; 10:27-29; 17:6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 24)
- God, the Father, and God, the Son, entered into an everlasting covenant. In that covenant Christ accepted the role of FEDERAL HEAD of all of God people. (Hebrews 13:20-21)
- God sent Jesus as a Man, with a body prepared for Him, in the likeness of man, and as the "express image" of Himself to save His people from their sins. (1 John 4:10; Hebrews 10:25; Philippians 2:5-8; Hebrews 1:1-3)
- God <u>tested</u> Christ just as He tested Adam! (Mark 1:12; Matthew 4:1-11; Luke 4:1-4)
- Though He, Christ, was tempted "in all points" He was found "without sin". (Hebrews 2:18; 4:15; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:22; 1 John 3:5)
- Jesus Christ, our Federal Head, came to **save His people** from their sins (Matthew 1:21) by . . .
 - Living a perfect life *for them*. (Romans 8:3-4; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
 - 2 Drinking God's wrath for them. (Romans 5:9-10; 1 Thess 1:10; 5:9)

Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

(Acts 4:12)