

1. JOKE: One day a group of scientists got together and decided that man had come a long way and no longer needed God, so they picked one scientist to go tell Him. "God," the appointee said, "We've decided we no longer need you. We can cure diseases, clone people and create life, so why don't you just go on your way." God listened patiently to the man, then said, "Very well. But first let's have a man-making contest, doing it just like I did back in the old days with Adam." "Sure, no problem," the scientist said, bending down to scoop up a handful of dirt. "No, no, no," God admonished. "Get your own dirt."
  
2. God made man for fellowship and to know and enjoy God forever.
  - a. God's purposes for us were far more than just the Garden of Eden in which our ancestors, Adam and Eve were placed in.
  - b. This is clear by the use of the term, "in His Image."
  - c. We are more than just creatures in this creation, we had a special and eternal purpose, one that included a relationship with God.
  
3. **Lets look at what it means for Man to be created in God's image.**
  - a. *We were created special so that God could reveal to us the wonder of His glory.*
    - i. Understand and cherish this unique privilege and position we have been given.
    - ii. Gaze up at the sky and marvel that you can be known by God in the vastness of such a world.
    - iii. You may not feel significant . . .but you are.
    - iv. The world may not notice you . . . but the Father does.
  - b. *We were made to uniquely reflect the nature and character of God.*
    - i. How well are you reflecting the Father? The next time you look in a mirror ask yourself that question.
    - ii. Ask, Do others see Jesus in me?
  - c. *We were created with the awesome privilege of being a steward over God's Created order.*
    - i. Have you taken this world for granted?
    - ii. The next time you see garbage on the sidewalk . . .pick it up.
    - iii. The next time you are tempted to abuse the environment, refrain.
      1. Do it, not to "save the world" but to show your love and faithfulness to our Creator and Lord.
  - d. *We were made to have fellowship with God.*
    - i. And because of sin we now have a God-sized hole in our being.
    - ii. We are complete only when we are reunited with Him.
    - iii. Augustine said, "You made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you."

#### 4. SCRIPTURE PASSAGES TO READ ALOUD:

**Gen 1:26-30** Then God said, "Let Us <sup>R30</sup> make man <sup>R31</sup> in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule <sup>R32</sup> over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky <sup>E29</sup> and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." **27** God created man in <sup>R33</sup> His own image, in the image of God He created him; male <sup>R34</sup> and female He created them. **28** God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky <sup>E30</sup> and over every living thing that moves <sup>E31</sup> on the earth." **29** Then God said, "Behold, I <sup>R35</sup> have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface <sup>F32</sup> of all the earth, and every tree which <sup>E33</sup> has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you; **30** and to <sup>R36</sup> every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky <sup>E34</sup> and to every thing that moves <sup>E35</sup> on the earth which <sup>E36</sup> has life, {I have given} every green plant for food"; and it was so.

**Gen 2:4-9** This <sup>E38</sup> <sup>R41</sup> is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the <sup>R42</sup> day that the LORD God made earth and heaven. **5** Now <sup>R43</sup> no shrub of the field was yet in the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for <sup>R44</sup> the LORD God had not sent rain upon the earth, and there was no man to cultivate <sup>E39</sup> the ground. **6** But a mist <sup>E40</sup> used to rise from the earth and water the whole surface <sup>E41</sup> of the ground. **7** Then the LORD God formed man of dust <sup>R45</sup> from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man <sup>R46</sup> became a living being. <sup>E42</sup> **8** The LORD God planted a garden <sup>R47</sup> toward the east, in Eden; and there He placed the man whom He had formed. **9** Out of the ground the LORD God caused to grow every <sup>R48</sup> tree that is pleasing to the sight and good for food; the <sup>R49</sup> **tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.**

**Gen 2:15-18** Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it. **16** The LORD God commanded <sup>R54</sup> the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; **17** but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, <sup>E50</sup> for in the day that you eat from it you <sup>R55</sup> will surely die. **18** Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I <sup>R56</sup> will make him a helper suitable <sup>F51</sup> for him."

**Gen 3:1-13** Now the <sup>R64</sup> serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any <sup>E60</sup> tree of the garden'?" **2** The woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; **3** but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.'" **4** The <sup>R65</sup> serpent said to the woman, "You surely will not die! **5** "For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you <sup>R66</sup> will be like God, knowing good and evil."

**6** When <sup>R67</sup> the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make {one} wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate. **7** Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew <sup>R68</sup> that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin <sup>F61</sup> coverings. **8** They heard the sound of the <sup>R69</sup> LORD God walking in the garden in the cool <sup>F62</sup> of the day, and <sup>R70</sup> the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

**9** Then the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" **10** He said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself." **11** And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" **12** The <sup>R71</sup> man said, "The woman whom

You gave {to be} with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate." **13** Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" And the woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

Vs. 22-23 "And the Lord God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the **tree of life and eat, and live forever**. So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken."

5. **We weren't created to look like God, since we were made of spirit and clothed in flesh.**

- a. Some say we were made spirit with an earth suit.
- b. Others say that we were made of the dust of the earth first, and given the spirit of life second.
- c. None the less, Our Spirit is what lasts forever, not our flesh.
- d. Man has an eternal Spirit which will live on after the physical body dies.
  - i. There are some teachers today who say God is 6'2", blue eyes, etc. and that we are gods in fleshly form.
  - ii. The Mormons say we will become gods someday once we mature.
- e. In the Hebrew language Image tselem- refers to the immaterial part of man.
  - i. It means we have a spiritual nature like God but in a finite way..
  - ii. The similarity is we have finite qualities like God.
  - iii. *If mans image was physical, made in the image of God, Jesus would not have had to take the form of a man, he would have already possessed it.*
  - iv. When we look into the mirror we see only the surface of our face – the true self is hidden or invisible.
    1. Our Spirit is hidden and so is the Image of God within us.
- b. We must distinguish between God's incommunicable attributes—he is immutable (changeless), omnipotent (all-powerful), infinite (without limitations), omniscient (all-knowing), omnipresent (everywhere)— and...
- c. *His communicable attributes—he is just, righteous, holy, loving, and faithful.*
  - a. *Obviously, we can't reflect God's incommunicable attributes: we can never be all-powerful or all-knowing. But we can become more loving and more holy*
  - b. **Holiness** – (separateness) – We are a created being, yet we were placed OVER all of creation. We were designed to rule creation. To be its stewards. Above every other created thing we were created. And this was a separateness, a uniqueness. A Holiness. We were created sinless in the garden of Eden. We were holy.
  - c. **Creators** – God as the perfect creator, one who could create from nothing. We, being creatures, could not do such a thing, but were endowed with a CREATIVITY, a drive to create as well. To take that which is and make something else out of it.
  - d. **Knowledge** – God is all knowing, but He withheld from us the Knowledge of Good and Evil. That is because we were creatures and not God. But we wanted to be “like God” and took from that tree and consumed it and found that we already were at our highest potential...in His unblemished image, and now had tarnished it and become instead like God, we had become like the Evil that we thought we wanted to “know.”
  - e. **Love** – God is perfect Love. He made us to love us and to allow us to love him back.
  - f. **Free Will** – such a wonderful first gift is Free Will. There is nothing like it. And we exercised it in the Garden when we chose to follow ourselves instead of God. And we do it regularly ever since.

- i. Yet God knew this when He gave it to us.
- ii. What would love be if one could not freely choose to be loved or freely choose not to be loved.?
- iii. Free Will is a sermon in itself. Let it suffice to say, that we can choose whether to allow God to love us or not based upon His love for us first.
  - 1. He will not force us to choose Him.
  - 2. He will not force us to spend eternity with Him.
  - 3. We have the freedom to choose the alternative, eternity without Him. (which is the definition of hell).
- iv. Some may say, that isn't free will, it is a choice between only two alternatives, as if somehow they could be left to their own devices for eternity and somehow be happy. This belief forgets two things.
  - 1. We were created BY God FOR God. He gets to set the rules of life. He is God and we aren't.
  - 2. Our existence on earth, although separated from God, is not completely separated from God. He holds all things together by His presence, and we experience only a RELATIONAL (and spiritual) separation from Him while in this body, but total separation from Him would be unbelievably horrible.
    - a. It is the very definition of hell...where the fire is not quenched and the worm does not die.
    - b. The bible says that we enjoy and experience God even while relationally separated from Him and continue to deny Him
    - c. **PSALM 19** *"the heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands,. Day after day they pour forth speech, night after night ledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world."*
- v. So why not exercise your free will to say "Yes" to God today? Say Yes to receiving His love, a relationship that lasts forever, and a secure place in heaven with Him? By saying "YES!" to God in Jesus Christ.

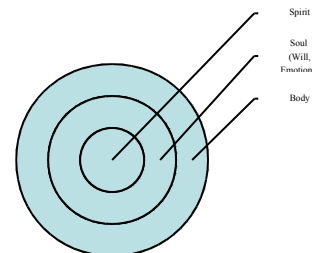
**d. Make up of Man – this is important to understanding how we make decisions and why we are held accountable.**

- i. Man has a spirit - (Jn.4:24) says God is Spirit. He is invisible but man is visible.
- ii. Not like Darwinism – who says we must be an offshoot of an animal.
  - a. Problems of Darwinism – atheism, man = animal
  - b. If in the image of God, then we are of incredible value. If not, then we can kill one another like animals.
    - i. Abortion is okay if we are just animals.

- ii. Cloning is okay if we are just animals.
- iii. Infanticide is okay if we are just animals
- iv. Killing a person and using them for spare parts is okay if we are just animals.

c. **Cf. Gen 9:6 “Whoever sheds the blood of man by man shall his blood be shed, for in the image of God has God made man.” This crowning verse is an underpinning behind our value. We are in the image of God.**

iii. **Body, soul, spirit** - The spirit is that part of humans that is able to love and experience God directly.<sup>10</sup>



1. It is found in no other animal species, since no other species can experience God or form a relationship with Him.:
1. Besides the obvious differences in the way animals process information in their brains, the Bible (and science) confirm that there are major differences in the ways humans make moral judgments (animals don't make such judgments).
2. Both Adam and Eve had a personal relationship with God in the Garden of Eden.
  - a. *Such a personal relationship is not described, nor seen, for any other animal species.*
  - b. *It is the presence of a spirit that was instilled into humans<sup>8</sup> that separates us from the animals.*
3. There are three kinds of life that God has created in this universe:

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Body only             | Lower life forms, including reptiles, amphibians, fish, and invertebrates   |
| Body and soul         | From the Hebrew <i>nephesh</i> , or soulish creatures, including birds and mammals<br>These types make “bonds” from emotional ties. |
| Body, soul and spirit | Humans <sup>9</sup> and angels  |

4. The Spirit of Man was created whole, but after the “**fall**” of Adam, all men were born with a spirit that was “dead to God.” Not ceasing to exist but incapable of discerning spiritual affairs and of communicating relationally with God. We need “regeneration” to become whole.

e. **Lets talk about The Fall –**

- i. God’s plan has always been for us to walk by the spirit and not by our will, emotions, or even our own intellect.

- ii. When we do anything less than walk by the spirit, we will separate ourselves from God as we begin to act as if we are gods.
- iii. *Adam and Eve abdicated the exercise of their dominion over the world and allowed the snake (devil) to tell them what they should do.*
  - a. *Sin is not only an attempt to be God, it is also a refusal to be human!*
  - b. *God made us to be human, with responsibilities and duties, and when we abdicate those and try to live as animals rather than the higher being that we are, we become what we act like!*
- iv. **The Fall was at its core, the result of our acting with our soul instead of our spirit.**
  - 1. The fall is often looked at as the action of pride (wanting to be like God); which in its base analysis, is true.
  - 2. Adam had the same choice we have, to serve God or to serve self. Be spiritual or be carnal
  - 3. But there is a cause to every action, and keep in mind, Adam did not have a sin-nature. He had not sinned before.
    - a. So he lacked the tendency to sin that you and I are subject to.
      - i. He didn't have the sin-wiring, the habits of wrong thinking, and the brokenness that you and I have.
      - ii. He lived in a seemingly perfect world.
    - b. Yet Adam would have a freer choice than any human being to follow.
      - i. One that if he acted according to his SPIRIT would lead him to stay with God.
      - ii. Or if he acted according to his SOUL or FLESH would lead him to be drawn away from God to the point of separation.
        - 1. This separation from God would mean the certain demise of his being.
      - iii. Without the knowledge of God the being would eventually self destruct.
      - iv. This process of separation was put into action when he chose to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil.
      - v. The knowledge he gained from the tree led the soul to move to the point of self reliance.
      - vi. And as a result, the knowledge of God was disregarded and lost because it is spiritual.
      - vii. If we place knowledge over the spirit, it will lead us to delusion and error.
    - c. *.Because Adam allowed his soul to rule his spirit. (he exalted knowledge over spirit)*

*d. Because Adam desired to attain to what he could not be (a god).*

4. Eve was tempted because she ignored her spirit.
  - a. Keep in mind, she wasn't there when Adam received the instruction on the prohibition concerning the tree. His job was to tell her, and he did a poor job of it!
    - i. Satan posed a question to her soul. And she weighed that question in her mind.
    - ii. His question contradicted God's word and she justified what he said and did not of correcting him by the conviction of her spirit.
    - iii. As soon as Eve no longer relied on her spirit (walking by the spirit) but allowed her intellect (soul) to rule with the problem solving, Satan could reach her will (soul). The result was sin.
  - b. **Look at it again:**
    - i. Satan first tempts her body (the fruit looks good to eat).
    - ii. Then the soul (It's going to make you wise).
    - iii. **Walking by the soul or the flesh will lead you to NOT walk by the Spirit!**
  - c. Godly knowledge can only be acquired from spending time with God and by relying on the leading of the Holy Spirit, not through mental exertion.
  - d. **Satan turned Eve's will through her intellect and Adam's will through his emotion.**
    - i. Eve wanted to be wise
    - ii. and Adam made Eve his idol.
    - iii. He chose to love her more than the Lord.
      1. As a result, Eve was deceived and Adam rebelled.
      2. Just a note:
        - a. **DON'T MARRY ANYONE WHO DOESN'T LOVE THE LORD MORE THAN YOU!**
  - e. **One more thing: Adam could have changed history**
    - i. He could have refused to participate in Eve's deception.
    - ii. He would have had to appear with her before God and defend her
    - iii. If he loved her, he would have said, "She must Die? I love her...I will die in her place!"
    - iv. Because that is exactly what Jesus did for you and I...he is the "new adam."
- v. **What is Sin to us now?**
  1. We rejected the position of dependence which our createdness involves and made a bid for independence.

2. Worse yet, we dared to proclaim our SELF-DEPENDANCE which is to claim the position occupied by God alone. He alone is self sustaining and self-dependent, but we, as creatures, are not. But we seek to claim that and as a result set ourselves up as gods.
3. Sin is not a regrettable lapse from conventional standards
4. It is at its root, hostility toward God.
5. Emil Brunner says, "Sin is defiance, the desire to be equal to God...the assertion of human independence over and against God."
6. Sin Affects...
  - a. Sin affects God...
    - i. Moslems believe that the original sin in the garden only affected man and not God. They do not elaborate that if God was not offended why did he remove them from the garden.
      1. The truth is, God was indeed affected.
    - ii. The Moslems do not believe man is in the image of God either.
      1. But we believe that God was affected by our sin, to such a degree that His holiness was offended and He suffered. His suffering came to fruition in the person of Jesus Christ who bore our sin on his sinless body and the punishment for our sin was taken by himself.
      2. Sin always is against God first and then ourselves or others. That is why David said, "Against you alone have I sinned," when he prayed for forgiveness for his sin with Bathsheba. His sin was first against God, then against Bathsheba and her husband, Uraiah.
  - b. Sin affects all of Creation...
    - i. Romans 8:19-22 "The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time."
    - ii. Everything dies, rusts and wears out. It is the result of sin, and sin affected every corner of creation.
      1. Think about that every time you have to pull thistle out of your garden or break a sweat at work.
  - c. Sin affects you and others

- i. Our society has changed the definition of sin because it is so hard to face the fact that we are fallen creatures..
  1. Many sins have become crimes so that the responsibility for dealing with sin has passed from church to state.
  2. Other sins have dissipated into sicknesses, so that the gravity of them is “treated” and that their impact is ignored.
    - a. Anger
    - b. Addictions
    - c. And while treatment is needed, what is needed first is acknowledgement of the action as sin.
  3. Still other sins are dropped in the bucket of collective responsibility, transferring the blame of our deviant behavior from ourselves as individuals to society as a whole.
  4. Sin cannot be dismissed as a cultural taboo or social blunder.
  5. Sin is an aggressive quality – a hurting and breaking away from God and humanity, an alienation and act of rebellion. Sin leads us to alienation from ourselves, from God and from others.
  6. We cannot really sin just against ourselves, such as “two consenting adults” because we are a part of one another as Christians and all we do affects one another. Anyone who has been through the pain of divorce will attest to the pain of another’s sin upon them and their children.
- ii. Sin kills your spirit.
  1. The result of sin was that death entered the spirit.
    - a. Death of the human spirit is none other than separation from God.
    - b. The spirit does not disappear or become inoperative.
    - c. It still exists but it's main function; namely communication with God, has ceased.
    - d. This is a serious condition that result in the corruption (a nicer word for rot), of the being.
  2. The result of a rotting spirit is a rotting mind and a rotting body; starting with [depravity](#) and sickness.
    - a. With the fallen spirit, either the soul or the body is in control of the being, the result of this is obvious. The darkened mind (soul) comes up with many

philosophies and theories to obtain eternal life or the fullness of life, all which result in confusion and ultimately death.

- b. Total Depravity – man cannot be good no matter how he tries. ...check his motives!
  - i. Man is capable of some good actions, but at his core, he is ultimately self serving.
  - ii. This self serving attitude is one that comes from inheritance of a sin-nature.

iii. Sin makes you a slave

1. We are born as slaves to sin ( Jn 8:34) Original Sin – the inheritance of a nature that is tainted and twisted with self-centeredness.
2. The more you practice sin, the more you become unable to see what is right and wrong. Your ability to refuse sin is weakened to such a degree that you are held in bondage to its power. Drug and alcohol addictions are powerful reminders of the power of this slavery. Many addictions begin with actions that once repeated, feed a part of the brain that becomes dependent upon those actions and the stimulus those actions make.
3. All the legitimate desires of the body become lusts with the presence of a fallen spirit. Legitimate desires are God given and are able to be satisfied. Lusts on the other hand cannot. So that participation in lusts will always lead to the striving for more, better or different satisfaction
4. But even slaves still are moral agents. While diminished by this fallenness, we are not destroyed. We still have the image of God imprinted upon us and can still reckon right from wrong.
5. Sin, having killed the spirit gives the sinful nature of the body, **authority to reign in the being**
  - a. The corruption of the flesh is complete. Not even the Holy Spirit can cause the flesh to change. Salvation therefore supplies the being with a new life and the ability to put the life of the flesh to death. Salvation is death to the flesh.
  - b. Nothing that fallen and unregenerate men can do is really well-pleasing to God. Many things that they

do are able to please us, with our imperfect standards, but nothing that they do is able to please God; nothing that they do can stand in the white light of His judgment throne. Some of their actions may be relatively good, but none of them are really good. All of them are affected by the deep depravity of the fallen human nature from which they come.

6. That brings us to another aspect of the great Biblical doctrine of depravity...
  - a. Which is the complete inability of fallen man to lift himself out of his fallen condition.
  - b. According to the Bible, fallen man, is unable to contribute the smallest part of the great change by which he is made to be alive from the dead.
  - c. Men who are dead in trespasses and sins are utterly unable to have saving faith, just as completely unable as a dead man lying in a tomb would be able to contribute the slightest bit to his resurrection.
  - d. When a man is born again, the Holy Spirit works faith in him, and the man contributes nothing whatever to that blessed result.
  - e. Man, according to the Bible, is not merely sick in trespasses and sins; he is not merely in a weakened condition so that he needs divine help: but he is dead in trespasses and sins.
  - f. He can do absolutely nothing to save himself, and God saves him by the gracious, sovereign act of the new birth. The Bible is a tremendously uncompromising in this matter of the sin of man and the grace of God

#### 6. SALVATION:

- a. We were originally allowed to eat from the tree of life, but after the fall, it was refused to us.
- b. Because we couldn't eat of the tree of life without a change of heart and character.
- c. Salvation - Intellect (and pride) was a chief cause of the fall. This is why God employs the **tree of folly to** bring about salvation. He uses foolishness of the cross to "destroy the wisdom of the wise."
- d. 1 Peter 2:24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

- e. 1 Corinthians 3:18-20 Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seem to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He takes the wise in their own craftiness. And again, The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.
- f. 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where [is] the wise? where [is] the scribe? where [is] the disputer of this world? has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.
  - i. Satan's work is done from the outside to the inside and the Lord from inside to the outside. Satan starts on the body or the soul to get to the spirit. God works from the spirit to enlighten the soul to do the Lords will.
    - 1. It is the soul that sins because it is the will that decides to sin. It is the soul that needs [atonement](#), and atonement can only come from another soul.
    - 2. With Adam we saw rebellion and the will to be independent.
      - a. *The tree of life implies dependence on God where the tree of knowledge offers independence.*
      - b. **The spiritual christian is wholly dependent on God and satisfied with what He has given. The soulish christian is more interested in knowledge than God. Independence is a characteristic of the soulish.**
    - 3. **The tree of knowledge and the tree of life do not grow side by side in us.**
      - a. Rebellion and independence are the source of all sins...**and they take root in our refusal or failure to walk by the SPIRIT.**
- g. Just how much does God love and care for those whom He has created in His own image?
  - i. The Bible tells us that God has made us a little lower than the angels (Heb. 2:9), yet declares He has done for us what He has never done for the angels. *"For assuredly He does not give help to angels, but He gives help to the descendants of Abraham. Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people" (Heb. 2:16-17).*
  - ii. There is no plan of salvation nor sacrifice made on behalf of the angels, but there is for us! "God so loved the world," (that's you and me, every one whom He has created on this earth in His image), "that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life" (Jn. 3:16).

- iii. If we could only realize who we are and how much God loves us. If we could only realize what we can be through obedience to Him, turning from sin and be baptized into Christ.
  - 1. It is then that the image which has marred by sin is restored along with the fellowship of our loving Creator.
  - 2. It is only then can we be that for which we have been created.
- h. Regeneration – brought back to what we once were plus more.
  - i. I don't believe Adam had the Holy Spirit of God inside of him. He only had fellowship with God.
  - ii. Adam was not a complete man. He may have become one if he had instead eaten from the Tree of Life instead of the Tree of the knowledge of Good and Evil.
    - 1. But we have the opportunity, because we have the Holy Spirit alive in our Spirit.
    - 2. We have God living inside of us, not just next to us in the garden.
    - 3. "Walk by the spirit and you will not satisfy the desires of the flesh."
      - a. How do you walk by the spirit? **\_Learn this tonight!!!!!!**
        - i. Learn how to Listen spiritually
        - ii. Obey the spiritual promptings of the Lord
        - iii. The key to a fruitful Christian life is to WALK BY THE SPIRIT.

Won't you turn from sin and self and a soul led life and allow Jesus to become your ruler? You can by saying "yes" to God through Jesus. He paid the price with his life. He took your place on the cross, he took the death you and I deserved. You can say "yes" today by stepping out from your pew, and coming forward and letting me know you want Jesus to become your savior. Do it publicly and God promises that if you confess Jesus as Lord before men you shall be 'saved.' Jesus says, "behold I stand at the door and knock, if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to share a meal with him." He means he is a gentleman, and he won't force his way in. You must ask him to come in. He is knocking now. Won't you let him in?

