

Elpis Israel

for Young People

The Creation of Man

Class 8

The Original State

The Constitution of Man:

- Created in the IMAGE and LIKENESS of the Elohim:

Genesis 1:26-27 *And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.*

- Image: 6754 tselem { tseh'-lem } image, likeness (of resemblance)
 - Physical resemblance
- Likeness: 1823 d^emuwth { dem-ooth' }
 - Mental Capacity

Eccles 3:21-22 *Who knoweth the spirit of man that **goeth upward**, and the spirit of the beast that **goeth downward** to the earth? Wherefore I perceive that there is nothing better, than that a man should **rejoice in his own works**; for that is his portion: for who shall bring him to see what shall be after him?*

- Men are capable of more intellectually than the beasts
- However, often it is only their own devices.
- They are not capable of anything higher than their own devices without the word of God

The Nature of Man

- Although made in the physical resemblance of the Elohim – with the ability to “think upward” – and with the addition of the word to amount to something, his physical nature is not the same:

Eccles 3:18-19 *I said in mine heart concerning the estate of the sons of men, that God might manifest them, and that they might see that they themselves are beasts. For that which befalleth the sons of men befalleth beasts; even one thing befalleth them: as the one dieth, so dieth the other; yea, they have all one breath; so that a **man hath no preeminence above a beast**: for all is vanity.*

Psalms 8:4-6 *What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast **made him a little lower than the angels**, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet:*

Woman

Wisdom

- Obedience to spiritual laws and therefore the production of a good conscience

Enlightenment of Truth

- Knowledge of spiritual laws
- Understanding the will of God

Moral Sentiments

- Accountable for its obedience or departures from spiritual or moral laws
- Ability to believe

Intellect (the carnal mind)

- Ability to use the propensities for the gratification of the senses

Propensities (law in members)

- Ability to reproduce
- Ability to collect food
- Ability to defend young

Serpent



Intellect

- Ability to use the propensities for the gratification of the senses

Propensities

- Ability to reproduce
- Ability to collect food
- Ability to defend young

The Challenge in Eden

In Eden a challenge to God's law took place:

Genesis 3:1 *Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, **hath God said**, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?*

- First question in the Bible
- The Serpent questioning the word of God

What God had said:

Genesis 2:16-17 *And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for **in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die**.*

Eve's confession of faith:

Genesis 3:2-3 *And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, **Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die**.*

- Straightforward statement of fact
- Disobedience = death

The serpent's Lie:

Genesis 3:4-5 *And the serpent said unto the woman, **Ye shall not surely die**: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.*

The response of the woman:

Genesis 3:6 *And when the woman **saw** that the tree **was good for food**, and that it was **pleasant to the eyes**, and a tree to be **desired to make one wise**, she took of the fruit thereof, and **did eat**, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.*

- Lust of the Flesh
- Lust of the Eyes
- Pride of Life
- Result: Adopted the Serpent's point of view
- Result: Disobedience, sin and death

The change:

Genesis 3:7 *And the **eyes of them both were opened** (by sin), and they **knew that they were naked**; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.*

- They became experienced sinners
- A consciousness of their nakedness and the desires associated with it were unlocked by sin

The Carnal Mind

The Thinking of the Flesh:

Romans 8:6-7 For to be **carnally minded** is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

- CARNAL - 4561 sarx { sarx} – the flesh
- MIND - 5427 phronema { fron'-ay-mah} what one has in the mind, the thoughts and purposes
- Therefore – the thinking of the flesh

The Carnal Mind:

- The thinking of the flesh results in our conclusions being stimulated by our tendencies (propensities) and senses
- “The thinking of the flesh, whose elaborations are excited by the propensities, and the sensible phenomena of the world” - JT, Eplis p89
- The law of God is given so that the our thinking is guided by his word instead of our own propensities and senses.

Thinking devoid of the spirit:

- “To be carnally minded is death... is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be”

Thinking guided by the spirit:

- “To be spiritually minded is life and peace”

The result of the sin in Eden:

- “When their sin was perfect, the propensities or lusts, having been inflamed, became “a law in their members”; and because it was implanted in their flesh by transgression, it is styled, “the law of sin”; and death being the wages of sin, it is termed, “the law of sin and death”; but by philosophy, “the law of nature”. (Elpis p90)
- Simply put, the latent propensities were brought to life by sin and are defined by scripture as:
Romans 7:23 But I see another **law in my members**, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the **law of sin** which is in my members. (see also v25)
Romans 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from **the law of sin and death**.
- Quite simply – it is CAUSE and EFFECT that was first outlined to Adam
Romans 6:23 For **the wages of sin is death**; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Flesh that isn't educated by the spirit word gives birth to the "works of the flesh":

Gal 5:19-21 Now the **works of the flesh** are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

Without the illumination of the word – flesh will degenerate

Romans 1:20-31 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became **vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools**, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the **lusts of their own hearts**, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto **vile affections**: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they **did not like to retain God in their knowledge**, God gave them over to a **reprobate mind**, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

Because of this the sentence of death has passed on all men:

Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man **sin entered into the world**, and **death by sin**; and so **death passed upon all men**, for that **all have sinned**:

This is the "serpent mind" — and was generated in the heart of Adam and Eve – it's reasoning is untruthful.

Matthew 23:33 Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

It is also termed the devil and is in opposition to the thinking of God:

James 3:15-18 **This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish...** But the **wisdom that is from above** is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

Those who are driven solely by it are described as having the mind of the flesh:

Romans 8:5 For they that are after the flesh do **mind the things of the flesh**; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

Phil 3:18-19 (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, **who mind earthly things.**)

Serpent thinking is also termed “sin in the flesh”

Romans 8:3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned **sin in the flesh**:

- This is the serpent thinking in the flesh

All flesh is condemned because it contains “serpent thinking” by nature

Romans 7:18-24 For I know that in me (that is, **in my flesh,**) **dwelleth no good thing**: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but **sin that dwelleth in me**. I find then a law, that, when I would do good, **evil is present with me**. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another **law in my members**, warring against the law of my mind, and **bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members**. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the **body of this death?**

The Law of God – or the Spirit – uncovers the “law of sin” that dwells in us:

Romans 7:7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, **I had not known sin, but by the law**: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

- The animals steal and kill and obey the “lusts of their flesh” but are not held guilty of sin because to them there is no law, nor are they capable of obeying one
- Right = doing the will of God
- Wrong = acting contrary to the will of God

Sin is also personified as “the Wicked one”

1 John 3:12 Not as Cain, who was of that **wicked one**, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother’s righteous.

- His thinking was the thinking of the flesh
- The implication is that he was the child who resulted from the sin of Adam and Even
- All who obey the lusts of the flesh become the children of the serpent

John 8:44 **Ye are of your father the devil**, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

The catalogue of terms used for the serpent thinking:

- The devil
- The wicked one
- Sin in the flesh
- The serpent
- Reprobate mind
- Works of the flesh
- Law of Sin
- Law of sin and death

The Common State:

- Every single one of us – born of the flesh, is flesh:
John 3:6 **That which is born of the flesh is flesh;** and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
- The lusts are termed “the world” – the sum of all the parts
1 John 2:16-17 For all that is in the world, the **lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life,** is not of the Father, but **is of the world.** And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.
 - All the institutions of the world are based on the “thinking of the flesh” or “serpent thinking”
- If we align ourselves with this thinking we are at enmity with God:
James 4:4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? **whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.**