



Section 3: Concerning Man (Cont.)

Question 2: What condition did man exist in originally?

Answer 2: God originally created man free from sin, yet with a free will, and subject to the consequences of his choices.

Memory Verse: **Genesis 2:16-17**

16 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

17 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.

Support Verses: **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.

Genesis 3:10-11

10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

11 And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

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:

Discussion Points:

1. Man's original condition:

- Man was originally created in the image and likeness of God, and with an innocent nature.
- That is, he was free from the guilt of sin.
- The reason was because he had not yet sinned and suffered the consequences thereof.
- In this innocent condition however, man was also created with a free will.
- This freedom of the will is necessary in order to have true fellowship with the Creator.
- Worship is an act of the will through the spirit.
- We choose to honor God, or our honor would be pointless.
- Love is an act of the will through the inner man. (Deut. 6:5; Matt. 22:37)
- We likewise choose to love God, or our love would be meaningless.
- In this condition, there was the possibility of sin, and man exercising his free will chose to be disobedient to God.



2. Man's current condition:

- As a result of sin, man now suffers the consequences of his actions, the judgment of God.
- He stands in violation of God's law.
- And God's law demands that sin must be judged.
- This judgment ultimately results in Death. (James 1:15)
- This sin has also affected man's nature.
- He now bears the nature of his father after the flesh, Adam.
- He is conceived in sin. (Psalm 51:5)
- And stands by nature as a child of wrath. (Ephesians 2:2)

3. Common misconceptions:

- Man is not, in his current condition, prone to sin.
- He is a sinner! (Romans 3:9-18)
- He does not have a propensity to sin.
- In the flesh, he can't help but sin. (Romans 7:18 & 24)

Notes:

Psalms, Hymns, Spiritual Songs:

- "God Sees The Heart" (Hymn - # 88 - Rejoice Hymns)
- "Great God Of Wonders" (Hymn - # 96 - Rejoice Hymns)