***Systematic Theology 013 Anthropology: the Creation of Man and Purpose of Man***

1. Introduction:
   1. Revelation 4:11, "11 “Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created.”
   2. (from Chafer’s Systematic Theology) “ANTHROPOLOGY—the science of man—is approached from two widely different angles, namely, that of human philosophy and that of the Bible. The former is extra-Biblical and avoids every feature of Scripture revelation. The latter is intra-Biblical and confines itself to the Word of God and such corroborating human experience as may give confirming witness to the truth disclosed. The one is conceived by man and, reflecting his philosophy of human life, is offered as educational discipline in secular schools of learning. The other is a revelation from God in that sense in which all Scripture originates with Him and presents a record which proud man is loathe to accept.”
   3. “…the revelation regarding man as found in the Word of God extends into many fields where a man-conceived anthropology could not enter: the true manner of creation, the original estate of man, his fall, the real cause of death in the world, the new birth, the ground of a right morality, and the resurrection of the body.”
2. The Biblical Anthropology:
   1. Purpose of the creation of man:
      1. The making and purpose of mankind, Genesis 1:26–28, "26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” 27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male 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 and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”
      2. Genesis 2:5–7, "5 Now no shrub of the field was yet in the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the LORD God had not sent rain upon the earth, and there was no man to cultivate the ground. 6 But a mist used to rise from the earth and water the whole surface of the ground. 7 Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.
      3. For the glory of God, Isaiah 43:7, "7 Everyone who is called by My name, And whom I have created for My glory, Whom I have formed, even whom I have made.”
      4. All toward the Son, Romans 11:36, "36 For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.
      5. Created for Him, Colossians 1:16, "16 For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.
      6. Designed for holiness and adoption, Ephesians 1:3–6, "3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love 5 He designed us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.
      7. Designed to be conformed to the image of the Son, Romans 8:28–29, "28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. 29 For those whom He foreknew, He also designed to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;
      8. For holiness, 1 Peter 1:16, "16 because it is written, “YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.”
      9. And this design is undeterred by sin:
         1. In grace, for the glory of God, Isaiah 61:3, "3 To grant those who mourn in Zion, Giving them a garland instead of ashes, The oil of gladness instead of mourning, The mantle of praise instead of a spirit of fainting. So they will be called oaks of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.
         2. Toward subjection of all to the Son, 1 Corinthians 15:28, "28 When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all.
      10. Make no mistake, God Himself created man:
          1. Paul’s direct statement, Acts 17:29, "29 “Being then the children of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man.
          2. Mankind is created in the image of God, Genesis 1:27, "27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
          3. Man is created both body and soul by God, Genesis 2:7, "7 Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.
          4. Mankind was created on the sixth day, and was the climax of God’s creative work. It is only after the creation of mankind that God said it was very good, Genesis 1:31, “31 God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.
          5. This is affirmed even after the disaster of sin, Genesis 5:1, “1 This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day when God created man, He made him in the likeness of God.
          6. It is affirmed when Israel was at the brink of entering the Promised Land, Deuteronomy 4:32, “32 “Indeed, ask now concerning the former days which were before you, since the day that God created man on the earth, and inquire from one end of the heavens to the other. Has anything been done like this great thing, or has anything been heard like it?
          7. Jesus’ authoritative comment on creation, Matthew 19:4, “4 And He answered and said, “Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE,”
   2. Final Element of Anthropology: the everlasting soul and physical mortality of Mankind:
      1. Man was originally created immortal, but now is mortal.
      2. Physical death is the separation of the soul and spirt from the body:
      3. Through Adam sin and death entered the world, Romans 5:12, "12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—
      4. In particular this occurred through the eating of the forbidden fruit:
         1. The warning, Genesis 2:15–17: "15 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 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, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.”"
         2. Spiritual death, Genesis 3:6: "6 When 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."
         3. Separation from the tree of life, Genesis 3:22–24: "22 Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might stretch out his hand, and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever”— "23 therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden, to cultivate the ground from which he was taken. "24 So He drove the man out; and at the east of the garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim and the flaming sword which turned every direction to guard the way to the tree of life."
      5. Physical death was rendered powerless through Christ: Hebrews 2:14–15: "14 Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, "15 and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives."
      6. Physical death will be abolished:
         1. 1 Corinthians 15:26: "26 The last enemy that will be abolished is death."
         2. Revelation 21:4: "4 and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”"