## What is Man?

## **Essay Questions**

LESSON ONE

#### IN THE BEGINNING



Biblical Education. For the World. For Free.

#### **Essay Questions**

1. What are "creation ordinances"? Give some examples of both explicit and implicit creation ordinances found in Scripture.

2. Where in Scripture do we find the two biblical accounts of creation? Summarize both accounts, and explain how the two narratives differ in their focus.

3. The Bible describes Adam and Eve as real historical people. Provide at least three references from Scripture that affirm Adam and Eve's historicity, and explain the significance of each reference.

4. In what ways does Scripture teach that humanity is superior to the rest of God's earthly creatures? Cite specific references to support your answer.

5.	How does the Bible refer to the physical or material aspects of our human nature?
	Why are our physical bodies necessary aspects of our existence?

6. How does the Bible refer to the immaterial aspects of our human nature? What does Scripture teach happens to our souls after our bodies die?

7.	Why do many theologians believe that God made a covenant with Adam even though the word for "covenant" was not used in the record of humanity's creation?
8.	What is God's benevolence? How did God show benevolence to Adam and Eve?

9.	Beyond not eating the fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, what two types of loyalty did God require of Adam and Eve?
10.	What were some of the consequences of Adam and Eve's disobedience? How did

God extend benevolence to them in their new state of sin?

### What is Man?

## **Essay Questions**

LESSON TWO

#### THE IMAGE OF GOD



Biblical Education. For the World. For Free.

#### **Essay Questions**

1. What is the nature of our office as the "image of God"? Where is the nature of our role first introduced and explained in Genesis?

2. How did images of false gods function in biblical times? How would this cultural practice have affected the way Moses' audience interpreted Genesis 1:27?

3. Scripture tells us that we are the image and likeness of the one true God. Using biblical references, explain what this means, especially in regard to our office as "image of God."

4. What are "moral attributes"? How were our moral attributes damaged by the Fall, and how are they being restored?

5.	Give evidence from Scripture of ways in which some of our rational abilities were
	lost in our fall into sin. What does Paul tell us in Colossians about the restoration of
	our rational abilities?

6. What does it mean to us, as God's images, that only Adam is reported to have received his soul by God directly breathing it into him?

7.	When God created humanity, he entered into a covenant relationship with us. List
	and explain three aspects of this covenant relationship that are specific to our role
	as God's images.

8. What does Scripture tell us about the nature of our relationship with other human beings? Use specific references to support your answer.

9. Explain what is meant by the "cultural mandate" in Genesis 1:28. What responsibilities did God give human beings, and what does this teach us about how we are to treat the earth and its creatures?

## What is Man?

# **Essay Questions**

LESSON THREE

#### THE CURSE OF SIN



Biblical Education. For the World. For Free.

#### **Essay Questions**

1. According the *Westminster Shorter Catechism*, what is sin? Describe the origin of sin in the human race beginning with the creation of Adam and Eve through the Fall.

2. Why did Adam's sin affect all of his natural descendants? What advantages did Adam have for resisting the temptation to sin?

3. What does it mean when we speak of the "authorship" of human sin? Using specific biblical references, explain how Scripture teaches that God is not the ultimate author of humanity's fall into sin.

4. Give a brief overview of Paul's teaching about the role of the law in salvation. How is sin fundamentally lawless?

5.	What is our primary expression of love for God? How does this help us see that sin, in essence, is unloving?

6. What is "original sin"? How does sin's corruption affect our concepts, behaviors and emotions?

7.	What was God's original intent for our relationship with him and with others	?
	How has sin alienated us from God and other human beings?	

8. What does it mean to be spiritually dead? If we are all born into this world guilty of Adam's sin and sentenced to death, how can we escape sin's influence in the future?

### What is Man?

# **Essay Questions**

LESSON FOUR

# THE COVENANT OF GRACE



Biblical Education. For the World. For Free.

#### **Essay Questions**

1. When did God make his plan to redeem human beings from the corruption and consequences of our sin? Use specific Scripture references to support your answer.

2. What role did each member of the Trinity assume in God's eternal counsel?

3.	What is the covenant of grace? How does the covenant of grace fulfill part of
	God's plan for what will happen in history?

4. How did human sin make the covenant of grace necessary? In what ways is the covenant of grace different from the covenant of works?

5. How does Christ act as our mediator in the covenant of grace? When did he begin to mediate the covenant of grace? Why is his mediation necessary for our redemption?

6. Describe, in as much detail as possible, God's benevolence to human beings in the covenant of grace.

7. Although Jesus has fulfilled the requirements of loyalty in the covenant of grace, and the only thing we absolutely have to do to be saved is possess saving faith in God, explain how our actions still have covenant consequences for this world and the next. Use specific Scripture references to support your answer.

8. Describe how the covenant of grace includes and expands on all the covenant consequences, both curses and blessings, of the covenant of works.

9. List the historical administrations of the covenant of grace and their covenant representatives from Adam to Jesus. Beginning with the Adamic covenant, describe the goals of each successive administration.

10. How do we know that, in the new covenant, God is renewing or reaffirming his covenant with his people and not abandoning the covenant he's sworn to keep?