

WHY MANKIND ANYHOW?

Genesis 2:1-7; 3:1-15

Introduction: How did we get here? Why are we here anyhow? If God made us, put us here, why in the world does He still keep us around? What good are we to Him anyhow? Why hasn't the human race disappeared by now? The Bible reveals our origin, our history, and our purpose to our Maker.

I. BEFORE THE CREATION

1. There was heaven with God and the created angels of which the chief, leader of them all was the one God named "Lucifer."
2. Lucifer rebelled against God, wanting to take His place, but failed and was cast out of God's presence. Although God could have just "erased" Lucifer, He didn't, why didn't He?

II. THE CREATION

1. When God created the world, Lucifer/Satan was not interested.
2. God then made man and brought him into the newly created world.
 - God didn't choose an angelic model for the first human, man. Nor did God give the first man any heavenly powers, such as the speed angels had, nor freedom of movement through space, etc.
 - God created man far below the angelic standards, tied man to earth, limited man in space, in time, in intelligence and in power.
 - God chose man as the means of defeating Lucifer/Satan. Christ would come and prophets would proclaim the defeat of Lucifer/Satan.
 - Man is the means whereby God will prove to all He has created that He is just and fair.
3. Now begins the great drama which is still being enacted on the stage of human history.
 - Here we find the divine explanation of the present fallen and ruined condition of mankind.
 - Here we learn of the subtle devices of man's enemy, the Devil/Lucifer/Satan.
 - Here we behold the powerlessness of mankind to walk in paths of righteousness by himself when God's grace is withheld.
 - Here we discover the spiritual effects of sin, of man fleeing from God.
 - Here we discover the attitude of God toward the guilty sinner.
 - Here we mark the universal tendency of human nature to try to cover its moral shame.
 - Here we are taught of the gracious provisions which God has made for man's great need.
 - Here begins that marvelous stream of prophecy which runs throughout the Holy Scriptures.
 - Here we learn that mankind cannot approach God except through a perfect mediator.

III. MAN'S FALL

1. Satan has a two-fold objective: to detach this creation (man) from God and to attach it (man) to himself. If the dependency of man upon God could be destroyed, man would then be dependent upon Satan.
2. Satan was thinking: if enough of mankind rejects God, God won't be able to judge them all and ultimately will let them go "free." Once God compromises justice, He will have to do the same with/for Satan. ("I just can't believe that God would condemn all those people.").
3. Two main avenues Satan uses are: to cause man to doubt God's Word and to cause man to doubt God's goodness.
4. In beginning there was only God's will, then Lucifer's and God's, then after the fall of man, there are billions of wills.

IV. THE REDEMPTION OF MAN

1. Satan had planned on God destroying man or simply just forgiving him and moving on.
2. Satan had not planned on God being so just that divine justice must be satisfied first before any forgiveness could be given.
 - Satan had not counted on God stepping down from His throne and coming to earth.
 - Satan had not counted on the Cross.
3. Satan hadn't counted on the enmity between man and himself.

V. THREE POSSIBLE SOURCES OF HOPE FOR MAN

1. There is God, man, and Satan. Satan can do nothing. Man can do nothing (history proves that), therefore God must do everything that is to be done to bring man back to his position with God.
2. So, why does the all-powerful God permit the holocaust of human history? God permits it in order to demonstrate to the universe that neither Satan nor man can do anything for themselves or each other. Man says "I need no one!"
3. It appears then that God doesn't care or hasn't the power to do anything. God both cares and has the power, but He is planning something which demands the coming chaos of our world in order to demonstrate TO ALL that help is to be found in God ALONE.
4. God knows our terrible condition. God has the power to alter it, but will not do so because of His greater purpose. God cares tremendously (the Cross and His Family, Christians).
5. Many draw the conclusion after seeing all the human disasters and suffering that God is not caring for His creation. They don't understand God. They don't understand the meaning of CARE.

They still don't understand the difference between those who refuse God's Son, Jesus and those who have accepted Him.

6. Most people never look beyond their own nose, or into the past. "It's just ME, that's all I care about." "My situation, My generation.." Never looking into eternity, never realizing that there is an eternal reason behind God's action/inaction.
7. In short, most people do not realize that there is a WAR going on, an invisible war. God neither can or will yield. There must be ONE SINGLE WILL in God's universe and when God has had enough, when Satan and mankind have gone far enough, God will move to bring to an end this present world, but MEANWHILE, the war goes on!

CONCLUSION:

1. Lucifer, an angel created by God, rebelled against God, wanting to take His place.
2. God cast Lucifer/Satan out of His presence.
3. In order to prove His love, His justice, to prove that ONE WILL is all there will be, God created this world and man.
4. Man is the means whereby God will prove His love, prove His justice, prove that there can be only ONE WILL.
5. Satan is at war with God and mankind is in between.
6. God has proved His love to/for man by dying on the Cross.
7. There will come a time when God has had enough. This world will cease, Satan will be put away with all the human beings who have rejected God's Son, Jesus Christ.