

Statement of Faith Paragraph 4:

We believe that man was created to enjoy a close, intimate relation to God, but that he sinned, and thereby fell under God's judgment -- physically in death, spiritually in alienation from God. All mankind has inherited this state and a sinful nature, which renders him totally unable on his own merit to gain salvation, or to regain his former position of fellowship with God. God's remedy for man's ruin is thus entirely of grace through one's personal trust in what Christ completed for him on the cross.

I. WE BELIEVE THAT MAN WAS CREATED TO ENJOY A CLOSE, INTIMATE RELATION TO GOD:

- A. Humanity was created by God in His own image and likeness and walked with God in the garden
 - 1. **Genesis 1:26-27**; 2:7, 15-25
- B. God's intention in the creation of man was that man should glorify God by enjoying Him forever: WORSHIP
 - 1. **Isaiah 43:6-7**; Colossians 1:16; Revelation 4:11; Ephesians 1:4-6

II. BUT THAT HE SINNED, AND THEREBY FELL UNDER GOD'S JUDGMENT -- PHYSICALLY IN DEATH, SPIRITUALLY IN ALIENATION FROM GOD:

- A. **Genesis 2:16-17**; **3:1-19**; Matthew 8:12; Romans 6:23
- B. God's word was not taken literally (Gen 3:1), it was added to (v.3), and omitted as Adam stood and did nothing (v.6)
- C. "Where are you?" (v.9) – answer this every morning
- D. God makes the curses in verses 14-19 so that it will humble us and so we can relate/identify with Him. God says, "I want you to see your life the way I see it."
- E. How does Adam's sin affect me personally?

III. ALL MANKIND HAS INHERITED THIS STATE AND A SINFUL NATURE, WHICH RENDERS HIM TOTALLY UNABLE ON HIS OWN MERIT TO GAIN SALVATION, OR TO REGAIN HIS FORMER POSITION OF FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD:

- A. **Romans 3:9-18, 23**; **5:10-11, 12-19**; **Matthew 5:48**
- B. There are two categories of people (cf. 1 Cor 15:22):
 - 1. Those under Adam
 - 2. Those under Christ
- C. Those under Adam receive:
 - 1. Death
 - 2. Condemnation
 - 3. Unrighteousness
 - 4. Disobedience
 - 5. Made (declared) sinners
- D. Those under Christ receive:
 - 1. Grace
 - 2. Free Gift
 - 3. Justification
 - 4. Life
 - 5. Made (declared) Righteous
- E. To be under Adam you need to be born
- F. To be under Christ you need to be born again

IV. GOD'S REMEDY FOR MAN'S RUIN IS THUS ENTIRELY OF GRACE THROUGH ONE'S PERSONAL TRUST IN WHAT CHRIST COMPLETED FOR HIM ON THE CROSS:

- A. You may say, "That's not fair that I receive sin/condemnation for someone else's act," namely Adam's, but isn't it also unfair to receive salvation from someone else's action, that being Jesus?
- B. **Ephesians 2:1-10**; ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.