



O u t l i n e

Lesson 3 – Anthropology: Who is man?

- I. Introduction – The Problem of Evil and Who is man?
 - a. Primary Doctrine – Who is Man? Who is God? - The answers to these two questions form the foundation of everyone's worldview
 - b. The cosmic battle within – Galatians 5:16-17 – Our sinful nature is in constant conflict with God's Spirit – Romans 7:15-25, Romans 6:12, Romans 8:5-14
- II. Man's Essence
 - a. States of man
 - i. Innocent – Genesis 1:27
 - ii. Fallen – Romans 5:12, Genesis 6:5
 - a. Hell – Revelation 20:15, Hebrew 9:27
 - iii. Redeemed – Revelation 5:9
 - iv. Glorified – 1 Corinthians 15:42
 - b. Dualistic or Monistic – Both flesh and spirit or purely material?
 - c. Naturalistic Philosophy Implications – no gods or purposive forces, no foundation for ethics, no free will, no life after death, no meaning in life
- III. Man's moral state and Man's needs
 - a. Abraham Maslow – Hierarchy of Needs – man's ultimate objective is self-actualization – The Pernicious lie – getting in touch with your inner nature
 - b. Basically good or sinful? – Depravity of man – Man's propensity for evil

- c. Carl Rodgers - "I do not find that evil is inherent in human nature."
- d. Scriptural Truth – Put to death your earthly nature – Romans 8:13, Colossians 3:5-10

Who is Man?
Truth Claims

<p>Man is created in the image of God</p> <p>Man, though created perfect, rebelled against God is now fallen, his heart is desperately wicked</p> <p>Man need divine grace, regeneration, and redemption</p>	<p>Goo-man is product of mindless, purposeless forces</p> <p>Man is basically good</p> <p>Man must save himself through self-oriented pursuits</p>
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IV. If evil is not inherent in man, then where does evil come from?

- a. Abraham Maslow - "Sick people are made by a sick culture..."
- b. Carl Rodgers – "...experience leads me to believe that it is cultural influences which are the major factor in our evil behaviors."
- c. Social institutions and authority structures are blamed for man's evil actions – provides basis for understanding the battleground over social institutions today

V. Why should "evil" bother someone with a secular worldview? – the question of evil is more difficult for them than us. Question: Isn't evil, as you described it (destructive, cruel, malevolent behavior), simply the natural outworking of the evolutionary process? The might survive.

K e y T e r m s

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Abraham Maslow (1908-1970) : psychologist who developed the theory of Hierarchy of Human Needs in 1943 (portrayed as a pyramid shaped structure that illustrates human needs, where self-actualization is the top of the pyramid). Not surprisingly, there is no clinical evidence to support his theory.

Anthropology: the study of mankind, its nature, behavior, origin, physical, social, and cultural development.

Carl Rogers (1902-1987): influential American psychologist who, along with Abraham Maslow, was the founder of the humanistic approach to psychology. Popularized the idea that "evil is not inherent in human nature" (i.e., people are basically good by nature).

Dualistic: Biblical view of man that he is comprised of both natural and supernatural elements, both flesh and spirit.

Imago Dei: Created in the image of God. Biblical perspective of man that we bear the divine image of God as his created beings (see Genesis 1:26). Though created in God's image, man is fallen by nature and in need of redemption.

Imago Goo: Del's way of expressing the humanistic perspective of man that maintains human beings are simply random products of the stuff in the box. Views man as monistic, good by nature, and in need of self-actualization.

Monistic: Humanistic and naturalistic view of man that man is simply material, made of one substance, and has no spiritual dimension. Man was not created but has evolved and is a product of chance. In religion monism is the view that all reality is one, such as in certain forms of Hinduism.

Self-actualization: Humanistic psychology theory that advocates getting in touch with one's inner-desires in order to help develop or achieve one's full potential.

States of man: May be referred to as "modes" of man. The different states through which man has passed or in which he currently exists: innocence, fallen, redeemed, and death (hell or glorified).