

Trinity Bible Church
Lesson 32
December 29, 2010

20. Man's Role in the Resolution of the Angelic Conflict.

- A. With the Restoration of planet earth, God brought into existence a Free Moral Agent in which all of Satan's charges would be answered.
1. Through the animals, He created a living creature with no ability of moral choice. 2 Pet 2:12; Jude 1:10
 2. In the progeny of Adam, He brought into existence a Free Moral Agent who was not able to not sin, due to the presence of a genetically transmitted Sin Nature. Rom 7:14-25
 3. God there countered Satan's accusation that God caused him to fall by simply creating him, knowing he would fall. God is not the primary cause of the fall of any Free Moral Agent. God is not even the cause of the condemnation of any Free Moral Agent who is not able to not sin as that is the effect of Original Sin. Rom 5:12-14
 4. God demonstrates His grace to those Free Moral Agents who do not reach the status of accountability. Job 3:11-19
- B. God created mankind with a role in the resolution of the dispute. Eph 6:12
1. This new Free Moral Agent was less wise and powerful than angels. Heb 2:6-7
 2. Yet because of man's initial position and his choice for God through Jesus Christ, he will become higher than angels and will play a part in their judgment. 1 Cor 6:3
- C. He established the same policy of "grace preceding the penalty for judgment" with this new Free Moral Agent as He did with the angels.
1. The penalty for judgment is always administered according to God's timing, as King, which is evidenced to man by the Flood, Sodom and Gomorrah, the destruction of the Northern and Southern Kingdoms, and eternal condemnation.
 2. This principle is further demonstrated by the fact that Satan was sentenced to the Lake of Fire, but will not go there until the Great White Throne Judgment. Matt 25:41; Rev 20:11-15
 3. God's Love motivates Him to provide the highest and best for His creatures, but will not compromise His Righteousness and Justice in the process. 1 Tim 2:4; John 3:16-19
 4. God's manifests His Righteousness and Justice in different ways.
 5. Through salvation God removes all eternal condemnation. Rom 8:1
 - a. This is because Christ condemned sin in the flesh, by His work on the cross. Rom 8:3
 - b. So this specifically assures eternal salvation for those who believe. Rom 8:35-39
 6. His Justice is demonstrated toward Believers in the form of Divine Discipline, but without loss of salvation. Heb 12:4-11
 - a. It can be discipline of the flesh. Gal 6:7-8
 - b. It can be discipline of the soul. Matt 11:29

- c. It can be loss of position and status. Isa 40:23
 - 7. Certain actions of Believers in time He clearly condemns. Jas 5:9; Rom 14:21-23
 - 8. Therefore, sin and worthless acts, also known as "human good," have eternal repercussions to the Believer, concerning loss of rewards. 1 Cor 3:10-15; 2 Tim 2:12; 2 Cor 5:10
 - 9. God faithfully applies His Righteousness and Justice to every situation. Heb 2:2
 - a. With forgiveness for sins, He can legally remove all Divine Discipline to Believers. 1 John 1:9
 - b. He can also let the Believer endure the discipline by removing him from status or position, either in time or eternity.
 - c. However, no human Believer will be ranked below angels in eternity. Heb 2:7
 - d. There several reasons for this:
 - 1) Our position in Christ and His position establish us above angels. Heb 2:9
 - 2) This also lends further credence to the fall of all angels, indicating that the discipline for all carried the eternal cost of loss of position.
 - 10. Since the Greatest Service receives the Greatest Rewards, it is reasonable man will be higher than angels for mankind comes to God from a greater "distance."
- D. God presented this new Free Moral Agent with truth and Laws as He did to the angels. Gen 3
- 1. The viewpoint of God is always Truth. John 14:6; Cf Heb 1:3.
 - 2. He originally revealed His Truth through direct communication and the stars. Gen 2:17; 1:14
 - 3. He eventually had it written. Psa 119:160
 - 4. The Truth focuses on the Unique Celebrity of the Universe. Gen 3:15; John 14:6.
 - 5. God being Omniscient, hence, knowing all there is to know about His Creation, designed a policy of Grace.
 - a. Living Grace which is designed to keep His creatures in existence whether compatible or not with God's Viewpoint. 1 Pet 3:7
 - b. Saving Grace, by faith alone in Christ alone. Eph 2:8-10
 - c. Revealing Grace through proclamation of His Truth. Heb 1:1-3
 - d. Greater Grace which focuses on the obedient creature with a Sin Nature in time. Gen 6:8; Jas 4:6
 - e. Dying Grace which removes the "Sting of Death." 1 Cor 15:55-57
 - f. Surpassing Grace which is rewards for obedience for eternity. Eph 2:7