

We Believe: in the Human Condition, part 1

Genesis 1-3

Article 3 (EFCA Statement of Faith)

- “We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath. Only through God’s saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled and renewed.”

We are Created in the Image of God (Gen. 1:26-27; 2:7)

- Humans bear God’s image because of the special creation of the human spirit
 - נְשָׁמָה (neshamah): breath, spirit
 - Adamah (ground) → Adam (man)
- Because all humans are created in God’s image, all humans have innate worth
 - Thus, the reason murder is a sin

We Fell into Sin

- Read *Genesis 3:1-24*
- When tempted by Satan, in the form of a snake, Eve & Adam disobeyed God’s explicit command
 - The fruit opened their eyes to know good and evil
 - Thus they became aware of shame
- All 3 were cursed because of the disobedience
- Satan (v. 15)
 - Would be destroyed by an offspring of Eve, and the hand of God
- Eve (v. 16)
 - Would experience increased pain in childbirth
 - Would experience an unfulfilled longing for her husband
- Adam (v. 17-19)
 - Would toil because the curse would effect the earth
 - Would eventually experience physical death
- We have inherited the curse from Adam & Eve

So What?

- We need to see all of humanity as:
 - Created in God’s image
 - Fallen into Sin
 - In need of rescue, reconciliation, and renewal
- Starting with ourselves

Meditation Verse: *Genesis 3:15*