

Reviewing and Refreshing our Doctrinal Statement

The Devil, or Satan:

Current:

We believe that Satan, a distinct personality, is the unholy god of this age, author of all sin and spiritual darkness, and is doomed to eternal punishment in the lake of fire. Matthew 4:1-3; II Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 20:10.

Suggested Revision:

We believe that Satan, a distinct person, was created by God as an angel but rebelled; that he is the unholy god of this age, the ruler of all spiritual darkness; and that he is doomed to eternal punishment in the lake of fire (Ezekiel 28:11-19; Matthew 4:1-3; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 2:1-3; Revelation 12:7-9; 20:10).

1. Distinct _____ (Matthew 4:1-3)
2. Created as an _____ (Ezekiel 28:11-19; Revelation 12:7-9)
3. _____ (Ezekiel 28:11-19)

QUESTION: How can a perfect being rebel without outside influence?

4. _____ of this age (2 Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 2:1-3)
5. Doomed to _____ (Revelation 20:10)

QUESTION: Does Satan have an opportunity to repent?

Hamartiology:

Current:

We believe that all mankind was created innocent in the image of God and by voluntary transgression fell into sin, and that because of this fall all men are sinners by birth with no spark of divinity; that all men are sinners, not only by constraint but by choice; and therefore under just condemnation without defense or excuse. Genesis 3; Romans 5:10-19

Suggested Revision

We believe that man was created innocent in the image of God and by voluntary transgression fell from his sinless state, in consequence of which all men are sinners by nature and by conduct; that all men are under just condemnation by God without defense or excuse (Genesis 1:27, 31; 3:1-6, cf. 2:16, 17; Romans 3:23; 5:12-19; Ephesians 2:1-3).

1. Man was created in _____ (Genesis 1:27)

QUESTION: What is the image of God?

QUESTION: Can animals sin?

QUESTION: Are angels made in the image of God?

2. _____ (Genesis 3:1-6, cf. 2:16, 17)
 - a. From _____ (Genesis 1:31)
 - b. By _____ (Genesis 3:1-6)
3. All men are _____ (Romans 3:23)
 - a. By _____ (Romans 5:18-19)
 - b. By _____ (Ephesians 2:3)
 - c. By _____ (Ephesians 2:1-3)

QUESTION: How is it fair that I am a sinner because Adam sinned?

4. All men are _____ (Romans 5:18-19)
 - a. Without _____ (Romans 5:12-19)
 - b. Without _____ (Romans 1:20-21)

QUESTION: How does a five-second sin merit eternal condemnation?