

And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment (Heb 9:27)

“Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man. Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment. (John 5:25-29)

I. In need of and capable of salvation

For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. (Hebrews 2:16)

It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look. (1 Peter 1:12)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people (Titus 2:11)

Summary: “After God had made all other creatures, He created man, male and female, with reasonable and immortal souls, rendering them fit unto that life to God for which they were created; being made after the image of God, in knowledge, righteousness, and true holiness; having the law of God written in their hearts, and power to fulfill it, and yet under a possibility of transgressing, being left to the liberty of their own will, which was subject to change.” (LBC 1689)

IV. The Source of Self-Worth

And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? (Mark 8:34-36)

IDENTITY

Who Determines Who We Are?

Class 3: Identity and Humanity

Bread of Life Fellowship

65 Oakwood Ave, Kearny NJ

Bolkearny.org

fb.com/bolkearny

instagram.com/bolkearny

sermonaudio.com/breadoflife

Sunday worship @1:30pm

Tuesday Prayer or Bible Study @7:15pm

Identity and Humanity

Questions for Consideration:

1. What does it mean to be human?
2. Are humans special, in contrast to other species, in any way?
3. What aspects of our humanity can change over time? What aspects are fixed?

Objective: To provide an overview of what God's word says about us as human beings and identity the source of self-worth.

Outline:

- I. **Attempts at Defining Humanity**
- II. **The Need for Honest Self-Awareness**
- III. **The Bible's Teaching on Humanity**
- IV. **The Source of Self-Worth**

Identity and Humanity

- I. **Attempts at Defining Humanity**
 - A. **Philosophy: Asking is Unethical**
 - B. **Science: No Objective Standard**
 - C. **History: Just Another Species**
- II. **The Need for Honest Self-Awareness**

Can I find value for myself *intrinsically*?

- III. **The Bible's Teaching on Humanity**
 - A. **Created by God**

then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. (Genesis 2:7)

B. Dependent on God

If he should set his heart to it and gather to himself his spirit and his breath, all flesh would perish together, and man would return to dust. (Job 34:14-15)

C. In the Image of God

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." (Genesis 1:26)

D. Male and Female

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. (Genesis 1:27)

E. Created with purpose and love

For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. (Psalm 139:13-14)
Before you were in the womb I knew you. (Jeremiah 1:5)

F. Naturally Sinful

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. (Psalm 51:5)

"None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one. . . for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:11-12, 23)

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it? (Jeremiah 17:9)

G. Dying and Finite.

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned (Romans 5:12)

H. Destined for Judgment