

The First Man

TEXT: Genesis 1:26-31; 2:7,18-23

SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURE: Genesis 5:1-2

KEY VERSE: And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. — Genesis 2:7

What a person believes about his origin greatly affects his entire philosophy of life. If a man were convinced that he does not have an eternal soul, then it would seem to him that he would have no responsibility to God for the way he lives his life. But a person's disbelief in the Bible does not release that one from his responsibility to God. As Christians, we believe that the most important decision a man can make is the one that will affect the eternal destiny of his soul. It is imperative that we arm ourselves against those who would erode this basic belief—that man was created by God in His own image and possesses a never-dying soul. We can do this by studying the Bible, God's divine Word, with simplicity of faith.

1. When the initial part of the Creation was completed and the earth was in readiness, God performed His last creative act—He made man. Why did God make man? See Isaiah 43:7 and Revelation 4:11.

2. How was man's physical body created? What factor made the creation of man unique or different from all the creative acts which had already taken place?

3. Man is distinguished from all other living creatures in that he alone possesses a living soul. How and why was man given a soul?

4. Genesis 1:26-27 states that man was created in God's image and likeness. What does this mean to you?

5. Causing a deep sleep to come upon Adam, God took one of Adam's ribs and from it created a woman. Then He brought the woman to Adam for a helpmate. Why did God feel man needed a helpmate?

6. Read Psalm 8:4-8. What place was man given in God's creation?

7. What is meant by the word *dominion*, in Genesis 1:28?

8. How will the Christian look at God's creations differently than the non-Christian?