Series: God's Design

A Loving Designer!

Pastor Doug Schillinger
January 24, 2016

I. CREATION: God created: **Genesis 1-2**

    A. HEAVENS AND EARTH

    B. IMAGE BEARERS

    C. SATISFYING MARRIAGE/HOLY SEXUALITY

> **Genesis 1:1:** In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
> **Genesis 1:27:** So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
> **Genesis 2:24-25:** Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

II. FALL: God rejected: **Genesis 3; Romans 1:18-32**

    A. 3 LIES

    B. A SHATTERED DESIGN

    C. EMPTY WORSHIP

> **Genesis 3:4-5:** But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."
> **Romans 1:22-23:** Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

III. REDEMPTION: God rescues and restores

    A. THE GOSPEL: Romans 5:8; 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-10

    B. NEW CREATION: 2 Corinthians 5:17

    C. LOVED TO LOVE: Ephesians 3:14-21; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15

> **Romans 5:8:** But God demonstrates His love for us in this: while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
> **2 Corinthians 5:14-15:** For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one died for all, therefore all have died. And He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised.
> **2 Corinthians 5:17:** Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away, the new has come.

For Further Study

1. **God's design:** Over the next six weeks we will study and discover God's design for several key components of our lives. Here are some of the topics and key passages we will be studying:
   - **God's plan for Marriage:** Genesis 2:18-25; Matthew 19:1-6; Ephesians 5:21-33
   - **Created Male and Female:** Genesis 1:26-28; Galatians 3:27-28
   - **Loved by God to Love others:** Ephesians 3:14-21; John 15:9-17
   - **God's Design for the Family:** Ephesians 6:1-4; Deuteronomy 6:1-9
   - **God's Design for Community:** I Peter 2:1-11; John 13:34-35; Acts 2:41-47

2. **Psalm 8** records David's response to the truth that the Almighty, Creator God, out of all of His creation, pays special attention to and gives special authority to people. Also look at **Psalm 139** and **Zephaniah 3:17** to see your value to God.

3. **Psalm 16** lays out a great contrast for those who go their own way and do their own thing and those who choose to follow God's direction. Look at the results that come to those who run after another god (v. 3-4), contrasted with those who choose to follow God's counsel (vv. 7-11).

4. **Do a study** to contrast the lies told to Eve, and the consequences Adam and Eve suffered in **Genesis 3:1-19,** to the truth about God and His Word shown to us in **Psalm 19:7-11; John 8:31-32; Matthew 7:24-27;** and **Joshua 1:8.**

5. **Romans 1:18-32** shows the downward spiral that happened when humanity rejected God and chose to follow their own desires instead of living by God's design. What attitudes led to this rejection of God (vv. 21-23), and what were the results?

> **To Discuss: With our families, friends, community groups...**
>
> 1) Summarize: What did we learn about God in these passages, and what did we learn about people?
>
> 2) What evidences do you see in our world that we have broken away from God's design, of humans being valuable, created in His image? What evidences do you see in your own life?
>
> 3) In what ways are we tempted to believe the same lies that Adam and Eve believed in Genesis 3:1-6? (Lie #1: God is withholding good things from us. Lie #2: It's no big deal to disobey God. Lie #3: We can be like God, making our own choices and doing what we think is right).
>
> 4) As a group, read through Psalm 16, as outlined above in For Further Study question #3. What promises can you cling to from this Psalm? How does this Psalm motivate you to live by God's design and not your own?