

LESSON 4

Chapter 6. "Of The Fall of Man, Of Sin, and of the Punishment Thereof"

I. Paragraph 1: The Fall and Its Cause

- A. God made man upright (sinless).
- B. By the temptation of Satan, Adam and Eve sinned willingly, not by force.
- C. God purposed that the fall would occur for His glory.

II. Paragraph 2: From Innocence to Spiritual and Physical Death

- A. Adam and Eve lost communion with God and fell under God's wrath (i.e, cursed)
- B. All mankind, being in Adam and Eve, have fallen with them.
- C. With the fall has come physical and spiritual death.

III. Paragraph 3: Original Sin and Its Effects: Depravity

- A. Original sin is imputed to all mankind.
- B. Mankind cannot do good (i.e., please God) and is evil.
- C. The will of man is in bondage to sin, unless the Lord sets them free.

IV. Paragraph 4: From Original Sin comes Actual Sin

- A. The effects of original sin extend to every facet of our being such that we are totally depraved.

V. Paragraph 5: True Christians are not free from all sin

- A. Although no longer under the dominion of Satan and the power of sin, true Christians will sin and continue to battle the corruption of the flesh.

Great Debates about the nature of man and effect of the fall:

Augustine vs Pelagius, Luther vs Erasmus, Calvin vs Arminius

Suggested Reading:

Martin Luther, *The Bondage of the Will* (Luther's Response to Erasmus)

R.C. Sproul, *Willing to Believe* (Best modern book on depravity. I have read it over and over)