

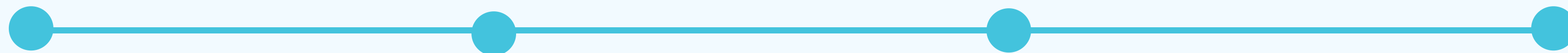
BIBLICAL ANTHROPOLOGY



WHAT GOD HAS REVEALED ABOUT HUMANS

BIBLICAL ANTHROPOLOGY AND THE GOSPEL

What God's Word Says About Humanity And Our Need for A Savior



CREATION

God created us male and female in His image to glorify God (Genesis 1:26-27) God's design was for obedience and perfect fellowship as humanity had dominion over the earth.

FALL

Humans sinned and separated ourselves from God. We are totally fallen and unable to get back to God (Romans 3:23). Further, the penalty for sin is death, and death is in the world because of our sin (Romans 5, 6:23).

REDEMPTION

Jesus paid the penalty for our sin on the cross (1 Peter 2:24), so that we could be saved. Salvation is a free gift we receive when we repent and believe the Gospel (Romans 6:23, 10:9-10).

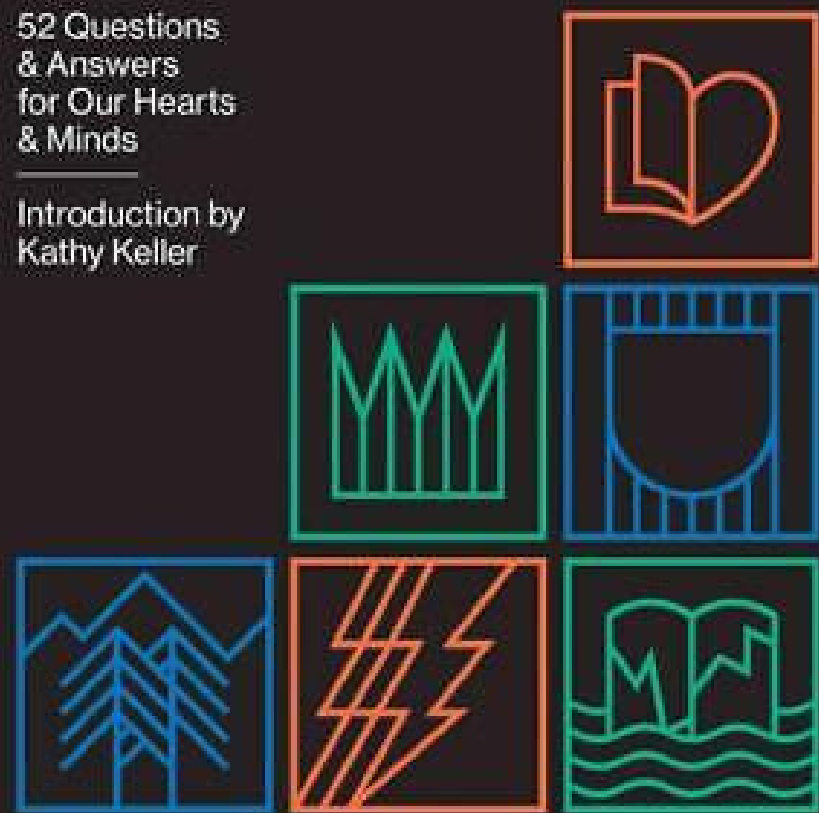
RESTORATION

Jesus restores us into relationship with God, and ultimately restores us into the image of Christ (Romans 8). Ultimately, he restores His creation as the effects of sin are removed (Romans 5:12-21, Revelation 21:4-5).

The New City Catechism

52 Questions
& Answers
for Our Hearts
& Minds

Introduction by
Kathy Keller



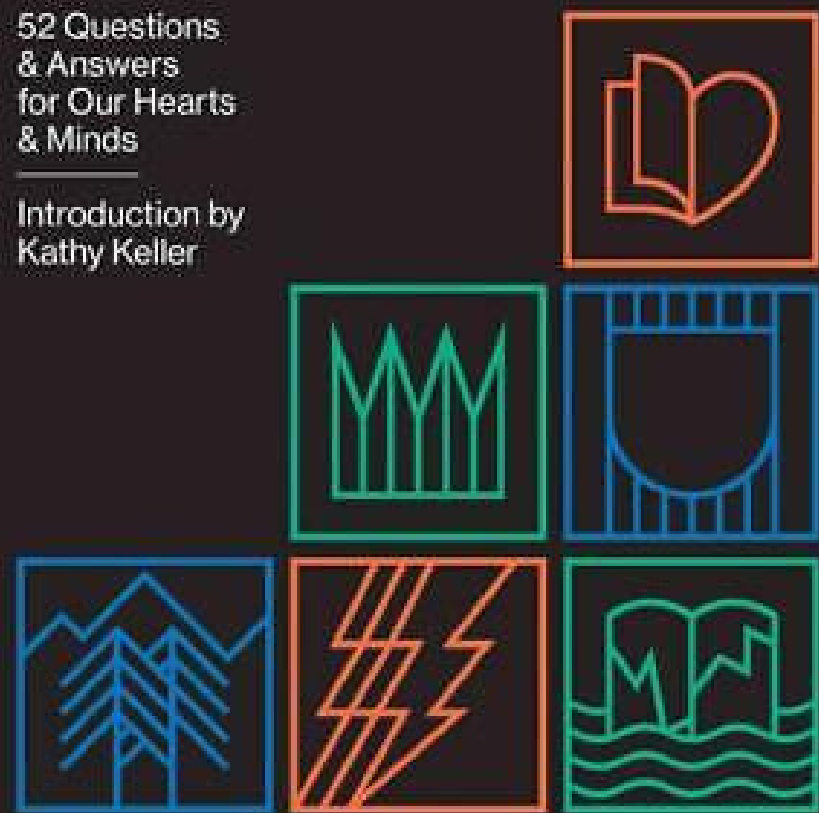
QUESTION 4: HOW AND WHY DID GOD CREATE US?

GOD CREATED US MALE AND FEMALE
IN HIS IMAGE TO GLORIFY GOD.

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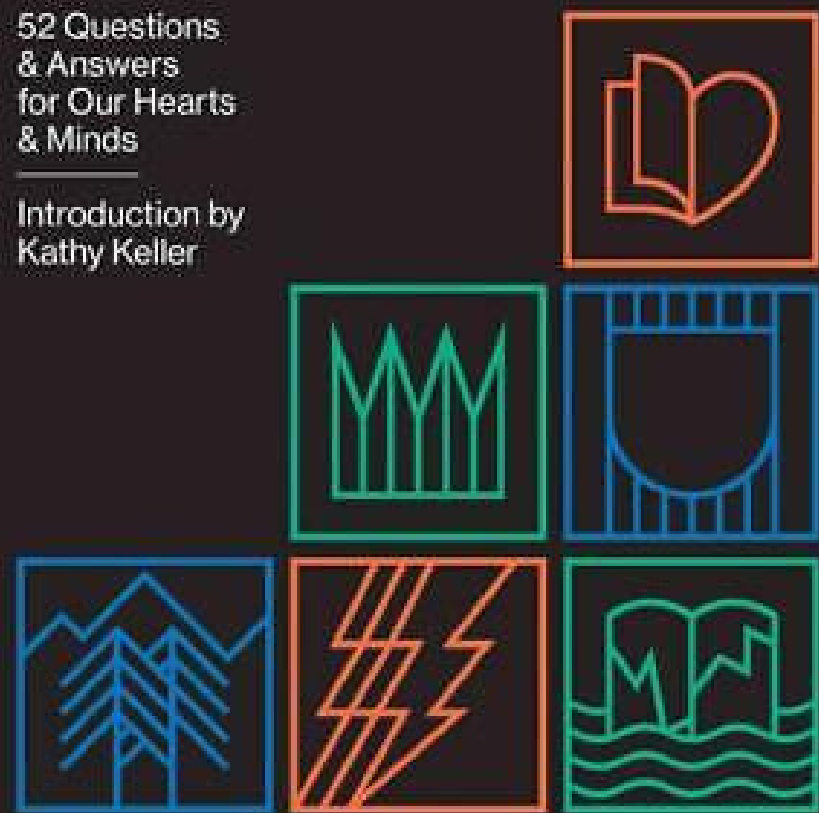
QUESTION 13: CAN ANYONE KEEP THE LAW OF GOD PERFECTLY?

SINCE THE FALL, NO HUMAN HAS BEEN ABLE TO KEEP THE
LAW OF GOD PERFECTLY.

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QUESTION 14: DID GOD CREATE US UNABLE TO KEEP HIS LAW?

NO, BUT BECAUSE OF THE DISOBEDIENCE OF ADAM AND EVE
WE ARE ALL BORN IN SIN AND GUILT, UNABLE TO KEEP
GOD'S LAW.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

ROMANS 3:21-25

Sin's Effects on the Image of God

- **SIN HAS DAMAGED THE IMAGE**

Part of what is so wicked about sin is that it distorts the image of God we were made to reflect (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1–4)

- **THROUGH REDEMPTION, THE IMAGE IS RESTORED**

(Romans 8:28–30; Ephesians 4:24; Colossians 3:5–10; 2 Corinthians 3:18).

- **WE ARE STILL IMAGE BEARERS AFTER THE FALL**

The fall does not mean we are no longer in the image of God, rather we are damaged by sin. (Genesis 9:6; James 3:8–9)

- **THUS, THE GOSPEL HAS PROFOUND IMPLICATIONS**

(Genesis 9:6; James 3:8–9)

12 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— 13 for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. 14 Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. 15 But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many.

ROMANS 5:12-15



SIN HAS DEVASTATING EFFECTS ON THE IMAGE OF GOD

ROMANS 5:12-15

The Result of Sin

● **FEDERAL HEADSHIP: IN ADAM ALL DIE**

Before salvation, we are all "in Adam," suffering the consequences of his sin, because he is our federal head until we are saved (1 Corinthians 15:22, Romans 5:12-21)

● **PHYSICAL DEATH IN MAN**

Death is separation. Scripture clearly shows that death is the result of the fall of man. Naturally, disease and frailty fall under this category as well (Job 10:9; 34:15; Psalm 90:3, 104:29; Ecclesiastes 3:20, 12:7).

● **SIN NATURE IN MAN FROM BIRTH**

Every human is born dead in sin, unable to respond to God with anything but rebellion and hatred (Genesis 6:5, Jer 17:9, Psalm 51:5, Eph 2:3, Rom. 1:30 Rom 5:12)

● **THE WORD IS UNDER CURSE**

Even the ground is cursed as a result of human sin. The world's broken state is our fault. Disease, famine, natural disasters, etc. are all our fault (Genesis 3:17-18, Rom. 8:22).

● **SPIRITUAL DEATH IN MAN**

We are separated from God and thus are dead in sin apart from Him. The unregenerate person hates God and cannot respond positively to God until God regenerates him (Ephesians 2, Romans 1:28-32, Romans 3:11, Gen. 2:17, James 4:4)

● **BROKEN HUMAN RELATIONS**

Due to our sin nature and lack of wholeness in Christ, we cannot have wholeness in our relationships with one another, this leads to divorces, war, murder, adultery, theft, etc. (Genesis 3:16, 4:5-8, Matt 19:8, Exodus 20:1-17)



STILL THE IMAGE OF GOD

GENESIS 1:26-27, GENESIS 9:6

Ability, ethnicity, behavior, etc. do not disqualify personhood, because personhood is not based on these things, it is based God's creation of man in His image.



THROUGH CHRIST WE CAN BE RESTORED

ROMANS 5:16-21

Jesus justifies us by His shed blood and restores us back to God, sanctifying us and ultimately making us new.

16 And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. 17 For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

18 Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. 19 For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. 20 Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, 21 so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ROMANS 5:16-21



SALVATION INVOLVES BEING FORMED INTO THE IMAGE OF CHRIST

ROMANS 8:28-30

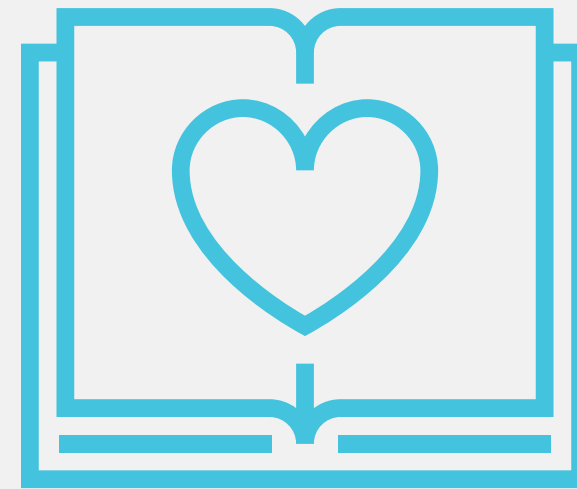
Believers are predestined to be formed into the image of Christ. Being justified, sanctified, and eventually made new to a glorified state, we are restored to a state better than before the fall. The Image of God restored.

Salvation in Christ



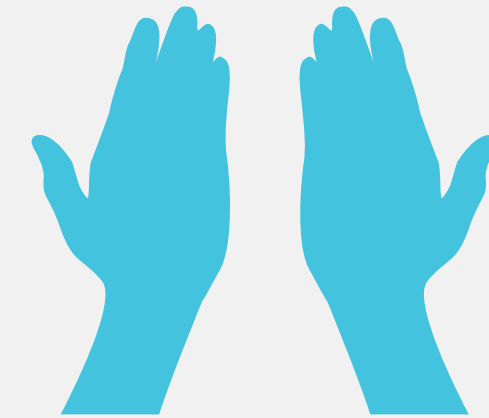
JUSTIFICATION

To be declared "righteous" by God despite our sin and because of Christ's atonement and imputed righteousness.



SANCTIFICATION

To be made holy, set apart for God's purposes in Christ. We are positionally holy (Acts 13:39) and being made holy.



GLORIFICATION

To have sin and its effects finally removed in our eternal, sinless state, having been made new in Christ, even our bodies.

28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

ROMANS 8:28-30

"and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator." -Colossians 3:10

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. -2 Cor. 3:18

Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.- 1 Cor. 15:9

Transformation

