BIBLE TRAINING INSTITUTE

To proactively accelerate the spiritual growth of Grace Bible Church for the purpose of knowing God more intimately and becoming more effective servants of God in the world

1

Anthropology, Part II

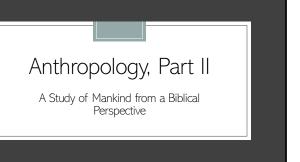A Study of Mankind from a Biblical Perspective

2

Beginning of Human Life/Personhood

Differing Views
- ✓ During gestation process following conception
- ✓ Begins at birth
- ✓ Post-birth with minimal functioning

3

Begins at Conception

- ✓ God's creation of a person is not a process but an event
- ✓ Traditional view of most Christians
- ✓ The Didache (early book of Christian teaching): "Thou shalt not murder a child by abortion nor kill that which was begotten"
- ✓ Letter of Barnabas
- ✓ Clement of Alexandria, Tertullian, Chrysostom, Jerome, Martin Luther, John Calvin

4

Biblical Conclusions

The Bible regards the unborn as human persons in a full sense
- ✓ Genesis 25:22–23 (Jacob and Esau)
- ✓ Exodus 21:22–25
- ✓ Isaiah 44:24
- ✓ Job 10:8–11
- ✓ Psalm 139:13–16
- ✓ Isaiah 49:1
- ✓ Jeremiah 1:5

5

Is Abortion Murder?

Four Criteria that determine murder
- ✓ Person must be killed
- ✓ Must be killed intentionally
- ✓ The victim is innocent (not official government judgment)
- ✓ Unlawful or sinful motive must be behind the killing

6

End of Life Views

- ✓ Continuation of soul but no continuation of body—no resurrection
- ✓ Cessationism—life ceases completely
- ✓ Annihilationism—life ceases completely for the unsaved
- ✓ Soul Sleep—no intermediate state between death and resurrection
- ✓ Reincarnation—we come back as cockroach, eagle, geranium, Buick, etc

7

Biblical Perspectives on Death

- ✓ End of a person's temporal existence
- ✓ Must involve discussion of anthropology and hamartiology
- ✓ Death is inevitable (except for the rapture at the Lord's return)
- ✓ Death is both natural and unnatural
- ✓ Death is an enemy and curse (Heb 2:15; 1 Cor 15:26)

8

Biblical Perspectives on Death

- ✓ Death is feared, final, and often unexpected
- ✓ Death is under God's sovereign control (1 Sam 2:6; Job 12:10; Ps 90:3)
- ✓ Death occurs when a person takes his final breath (Job 14:10)
- ✓ Three types of death—spiritual, physical, eternal

9

Biblical Perspectives on Death

What Comes After Death?

- ✓ Intermediate state in recognizable spirit form
  Ps 49:15; 73:24; Eccl 12:7; Luke 9:30–31; 16:19–31; 23:43; Acts 7:59–60; 2 Cor 5:8; Phil 1:22–24

- ✓ Resurrection of the body
  Job 19:26; Isa 26:19; Dan 12:2; John 5:28–29; 1 Cor 15:42–43; 15:51–52; 1 Thess 4:16–17

- ✓ Endless life in either heaven or hell (Rev 20–22)

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