

## **MAN – THE CROWN OF CREATION**

### HIS CREATION (Genesis 1-2)

- created in God's image (*1:26-27; 2:7*)
  - body, soul & spirit (*1 Thess 5:23*)
- given dominion over the earth (*1:28; 2:19-20*)
  - crowned with glory and honour (*Ps 8:4-8*)
- subject to His Creator (*2:15-17*)
  - his obedience tested
- given a mate (*2:18-25*)
  - designed to be two, yet one (*2:24*)
  - equal, yet man having God-given authority over the woman (*Gal 3:28; 1 Cor 11:3; Eph 5:23; 1 Tim 2:12-13*)

### HIS FALL (Genesis 3:1-19)

- God's prohibition and warning (*2:16-17*)
- Eve is deceived; both transgress (*6,13; 1 Tim 2:14*)
- Consciousness of sin (*7*)
- Separation from God (*8*)
  - spiritual death (*Eph 2:1*)
- Mankind's sinful nature (*Rom 5:19*)
- No longer master of his environment (*17-19*)
  - hard labour required for survival
  - inevitable frustration
  - ultimate physical death (*Heb 9:27*)

## HIS REDEMPTION (Hebrews 2:5-18)

- The Deliverer promised (*Gen 3:15*)
- Christ died to deliver Adam's race from the power and bondage of sin, death and Satan (*Heb 2:14-16*)
- The crowning glory intended by God for mankind is achieved through faith in Christ (*Heb 2:5-10*)

## APPLICATION

As members of the human race, each of us inevitably falls short of our goals and the position God intends for us. Human existence includes much frustration; we try to do well, but don't; we strive to overcome the challenges we face, but lack the mastery to get to where we need to be. God has provided a way for us to overcome our greatest obstacles. That way is Jesus Christ. Faith in Christ does not result in a trouble-free life – it gives us a source of hope and strength that we don't find in ourselves. In Christ, we receive God's free gift of forgiveness and eternal life. We know that all our circumstances are achieving the glorious purpose that God has for us – to be like Jesus Christ. He is the crown of glory that God wants us to wear.

What frustrates you? What are you trying to achieve in your own strength? Now is the time to rely on Christ's way rather than your own.

*“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”  
(Philippians 4:13)*