

## BUILDING A CHRIST-CENTERED WORLDVIEW

### Thinking Biblically: The Biblical Grid

Theology		
Creation	Fall	Redemption
Cosmology	Hamartiology	Soteriology
Anthropology		

“[A Christ-centered worldview] involves three fundamental dimensions: the original good creation, the perversion of that creation through sin, and the restoration of that creation in Christ.”  
 (Albert Wolters, *Creation Regained*)




## THINKING BIBLICALLY: THE BIBLICAL GRID

Fall.

Liberal Theology

1. Arose as a result of the rationalism and experimentalism of the philosophers and scientists.
2. It basically states that whatever does not agree with reason and science is to be rejected. (*reason over revelation*)
3. As a result, liberalism has rejected the historicity of the Special Revelation.
  - The orthodox view of scripture is that it is a Special revelation of the way things really are (*revelation over reason*)
  - It is *Total Truth*



## THINKING BIBLICALLY: THE BIBLICAL GRID

Fall.

Liberal Theology

The Bible reveals Truth in *many* areas (but is not exhaustive)

1. Soteriology – salvation through Jesus
2. History – Man in and through time
3. Science – the creation, or natural world

Orthodox Perspective on Scripture: Soteriology (or Theology) was verifiable by Biblical History and Scientific Revelation	Liberal view on Scripture: Soteriology (or Theology) Secular History and Naturalistic Science
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The crucial flaw in *Liberal Theology* is that it adopts the two-layer concept of truth: It accepts a naturalistic account of science and history (lower story) while trying to find meaning and value in theology (upper story)



## THINKING BIBLICALLY: THE BIBLICAL GRID

Fall.

1. **Genesis 3** describes an historical event.
  - If Adam was not a real person who brought sin into the human race at one point in history, then there is no point to Jesus' redeeming humanity at another point in history.
2. The totality of the fall included *body, soul* (mind, will, and emotions), and *spirit* (**1 Thessalonians 5:23**)

In everything we do, we need to begin to think and ask ourselves:

1. What is the original structure that God created?
2. How is it being distorted and directed to *sinful* purposes?

## HAMARTIOLOGY: THE STUDY OF SIN

Sin.

1. Definition.
  - Selfishness – this is scriptural, but inadequate (most frequently heard)
  - A violation of the Law – again, scriptural, but inadequate.
  - *Anything Contrary to the Character of God.*
2. “sins” verses “sin” – *am I a sinner because I sin or do I sin because I am a sinner*
  - sins: activity – what I *do* is wrong
  - **Romans 1:1-5:11** deals with “sins” committed against God.
  - Acts committed against the Character of God.
  - **Romans 3:23** – “for all have sinned”
  - Why do I commit sins against God?

## HAMARTIOLOGY: THE STUDY OF SIN

Sin.

2. “sins” verses “sin” – *am I a sinner because I sin or do I sin because I am a sinner*
  - sin: (the sin nature) constitution – what I *am* is wrong
  - **Romans 5:12-8:39** deals with the sin nature.
  - *The fruit (sins) are evidence of the root (sin).*
  - The term “sin nature” is the inherent, innate, indwelling sinfulness possessed by all of Adam’s descendants (with the sole exception of the virgin born Son of God), which leads to the committing of personal sins.
  - **Psalms 51:5** – at conception a person possesses a sin nature.
  - **Psalms 58:3** – the sin nature is present “from birth”
  - **John 3:6** – of the flesh is flesh; of the Spirit is spirit.



## HAMARTIOLOGY: THE STUDY OF SIN

### Sin.

#### 3. Views on the imputation of the sin Nature. Rom. 5:12

Views	Romans 5:12	Adam	Humanity	Modern Adherents
<i>Pelagian View</i> (Pelagian 354-428ish)	People incur death when they sin after Adam's example.	Sin affected Adam alone.	No one affected by Adam's sin.	Unitarians
<i>Arminian View</i> (Jacobus Arminius 1560-1609)	All people consent to Adam's sin—then sin is imputed.	Adam sinned and partially affected humanity.	Depravity is not total; people received corrupt nature from Adam but not guilt or culpability	Methodists Wesleyans Pentecostals Holiness groups
<i>Federal View</i> (Johannes Cocceus 1603-1669)	Sin is imputed to humanity because of Adam's sin.	Adam alone sinned but human race affected.	Depravity is total; sin and guilt are imputed.	Presbyterians and others holding to Covenant theology.
<i>Augustinian View</i> (Augustine 354-430)	Sin is imputed to humanity because of Adam's sin.	Humanity sinned in Adam.	Depravity is total; sin and guilt are imputed.	Reformers and later Calvinists.

## HAMARTIOLOGY: THE STUDY OF SIN

### Sin.

#### 3. Views on the imputation of the sin Nature. Rom. 5:12

- **1 Corinthians 15:22** – if the answer to the sin nature is being found "in Christ," then the sin nature must have been a direct result of being found "in Adam"
- "In Adam"
- **Hebrews 7:1-10** – Jesus is superior to Aaron because Melchizedek is superior to Levi.
- Where would you be if your grandfather died before your dad was conceived?
- Because the entire human race was "in Adam" when he sinned, we all sinned "in Adam"
- We are sinners because of constitution rather than action.

## HAMARTIOLOGY: THE STUDY OF SIN

### Sin.

#### 4. The Answer to the problem of *sins* and *sin*.

- Our *sins* were forgiven by the *blood* of Christ.
  - **Romans 3:24-26**
  - **Romans 5:8-9**
  - We should never try to answer Satan's accusations with our good conduct but always with the blood of our Lord Jesus.
- Our *sin* was dealt with by the *cross* of Christ.
  - We came into the sin nature through birth, we must go out by death.
  - **Romans 6:3-4**
  - **1 Corinthians 1:30**



## HAMARTIOLOGY: THE STUDY OF SIN

### Sin.

#### 4. The Answer to the problem of *sins* and *sin*.

- The fruit (*sins*) have been dealt with by the Blood of Christ and the root (*sin*) has been dealt with by the Cross of Christ – *neither of which are my doing!*
- Those who understand, believe and then faith this truth will begin the journey of abundancy – life now!

