

## OUR SYMPATHETIC YET SINLESS SAVIOUR – Stephen Wallace (SW)

### #3 God Made Man Upright, But...

#### Ecclesiastes 7:29

Lo, this only have I found, that **God hath made man upright; but** they have sought out many inventions.

**Question - What nature did Christ take? Adam's nature before the fall, or Adam's nature after the fall?**

**Answer – It depends upon what aspect of His nature you are talking about! That question can not be answered with an either, or. It must be qualified...He had a very unique nature! (SW)**

#### Signs Of The Times, August 26, 1897.4

**God did not create man sinful. Adam came forth from the hand of his Maker without the taint of evil.**

The holy pair might have retained their innocence, had they lived by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God, had they refused to listen to the strange voice declaring another story than that which God had told them. But they abused their high and holy privileges. They were left free to choose between good and evil, and they chose the evil. And as they chose to believe the lie of Satan and disobey the express command of God, that which was pure and godlike in their nature became perverted and defiled.

#### Letter 83, 1905

Adam listened to the specious sophistry of Satan, and received it as truth. **He had originally the wonderful gift of a sinless nature.** But he listened to the falsehoods of the one who fell from his first estate. Satan exercised his hypnotism upon him, and Adam, listening to him, sinned, and thus opened the door through which the enemy could ever gain access to human beings. Adam and Eve lost the spiritual life that would have been theirs by continual endowment. {3MR 330.3}

#### Child Guidance 39.1

**The nature of man is threefold**, and the training enjoined by Solomon comprehends the right development of the **physical, intellectual, and moral powers.** To perform this work aright, parents and teachers must themselves understand "the way the child should go." This embraces more than a knowledge of books or the learning of the schools. It comprehends the practice of temperance, brotherly kindness, and godliness; the discharge of our duty to ourselves, to our neighbors, and to God.

#### Education 15.2

**When Adam came from the Creator's hand, he bore, in his physical, mental, and spiritual nature, a likeness to his Maker. "God created man in His own image" (Genesis 1:27), and it was His purpose that the longer man lived the more fully he should reveal this image--the more fully reflect the glory of the Creator. All his faculties were capable of development; their capacity and vigor were continually to increase.** Vast was the scope offered for their exercise, glorious the field opened to their research. The mysteries of the visible universe--the "wondrous works of Him which is perfect in knowledge" (Job 37:16)--invited man's study.

#### Patriarchs And Prophets 45.2

Man was to bear God's image, both in outward resemblance and in character. Christ alone is "the express image" (Hebrews 1:3) of the Father; but **man was formed in the likeness of God. His nature was in harmony with the will of God. His mind was capable of comprehending divine things. His affections were pure; his appetites and passions were under the control of reason. He was holy and happy in bearing the image of God and in perfect obedience to His will.**

#### Great Controversy 467.2

It is the work of conversion and sanctification to reconcile men to God by bringing them into accord with the principles of His law. **In the beginning, man was created in the image of God. He was in perfect**

**harmony with the nature and the law of God; the principles of righteousness were written upon his heart.** But sin alienated him from his Maker. He no longer reflected the divine image. His heart was at war with the principles of God's law. "The carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be." Romans 8:7

#### **1 Bible Commentary 1084.1**

**Adam and Eve at their creation had knowledge of the original law of God. It was imprinted upon their hearts, and they were acquainted with the claims of law upon them.** When they transgressed the law of God, and fell from their state of happy innocence, and became sinners, the future of the fallen race was not relieved by a single ray of hope... (RH April 29, 1875).

#### **Education 289.1**

**...The will is the governing power in the nature of man, the power of decision, or choice...**

#### **Adventist Home 26.4**

**...Not a shadow interposed between them and their Creator. They knew God as their beneficent Father, and in all things their will was conformed to the will of God. And God's character was reflected in the character of Adam. His glory was revealed in every object of nature.**

#### **Patriarchs And Prophets 49.4**

**God made man upright; He gave him noble traits of character, with no bias toward evil.**

#### **1 Bible Commentary 1084.3**

**It certainly was not God's purpose that man should be sinful. He made Adam pure and noble, with no tendency to evil.**

#### **Youth's Instructor, August 10, 1899.3**

**...He possessed a right understanding, a true knowledge of his Creator, of himself, his duty, his obligations in respect to the law of God. His judgment was uncorrupted, unbiased, and disposed to obedience and affection, regulated according to reason and truth.** He was capable of enjoying to the utmost capacity the good gifts of God. Everything upon which he looked was transporting to his senses; every sound was as music in his ears. **Yet he was not placed beyond the reach of temptation.** He stood as the representative of the human race,--a free moral agent.

#### **Patriarchs And Prophets 48.4**

**Our first parents, though created innocent and holy, were not placed beyond the possibility of wrongdoing.** God made them free moral agents, capable of appreciating the wisdom and benevolence of His character and the justice of His requirements, and with full liberty to yield or to withhold obedience. **They were to enjoy communion with God and with holy angels; but before they could be rendered eternally secure, their loyalty must be tested. At the very beginning of man's existence a check was placed upon the desire for self-indulgence, the fatal passion that lay at the foundation of Satan's fall.** The tree of knowledge, which stood near the tree of life in the midst of the garden, was to be a test of the obedience, faith, and love of our parents. While permitted to eat freely of every other tree, they were forbidden to taste of this, on pain of death. They were also to be exposed to the temptations of Satan; but if they endured the trial, they would finally be placed beyond his power, to enjoy perpetual favor with God.

#### **Review And Herald, February 24, 1874.10**

**The first great moral lesson given Adam was that of self-denial. The reins of self-government were placed in his hands. Judgment, reason, and conscience, were to bear sway. "And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat, but of the tree of**

the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it, for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

#### **Genesis 2**

<sup>15</sup>And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

<sup>16</sup>And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: <sup>17</sup>But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

#### **Counsels To Teachers 32.3**

...Through the temptation to self-indulgence and ambition, Satan accomplished the fall of our first parents; and from that time to the present the gratification of human ambition and the indulgence of selfish hopes and desires have proved the ruin of mankind. {RH, January 16, 1913 par. 3}

#### **Genesis 3:6**

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

#### **1 John 2:16**

For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

#### **Desire Of Ages 116.4**

With the terrible weight of the sins of the world upon Him, Christ withstood the test upon appetite, upon the love of the world, and upon that love of display which leads to presumption. These were the temptations that overcame Adam and Eve, and that so readily overcome us.

#### **Education 25.2**

...It was distrust of God's goodness, disbelief of His word, and rejection of His authority, that made our first parents transgressors, and that brought into the world a knowledge of evil. It was this that opened the door to every species of falsehood and error.

#### **1 Bible Commentary 1083.3, 4**

...With what intense interest the whole universe watched the conflict that was to decide the position of Adam and Eve. How attentively the angels listened to the words of Satan, the originator of sin, as he placed his own ideas above the commands of God, and sought to make of none effect the law of God through his deceptive reasoning! How anxiously they (angels) waited to see if the holy pair would be deluded by the tempter, and yield to his arts! They asked themselves, Will the holy pair transfer their faith and love from the Father and Son to Satan? Will they accept his falsehoods as truth? They knew that they might refrain from taking the fruit, and obey the positive injunction of God, or they might violate the express command of their Creator.

The mildest test was given them that could be given; for there was no need of their eating of the forbidden tree; everything that their wants required had been provided. (BE July 24, 1899)

#### **1 Bible Commentary 1083.6**

In what consisted the strength of the assault made upon Adam, which caused his fall? It was not indwelling sin; for God made Adam after His own character, pure and upright. There were no corrupt principles in the first Adam, no corrupt propensities or tendencies to evil. Adam was as faultless as the angels before God's throne. These things are inexplicable, but many things which now we cannot

understand will be made plain when we shall see as we are seen, and know as we are known (Letter 191, 1899).

#### **Steps To Christ 17.1**

**Man was originally endowed with noble powers and a well-balanced mind. He was perfect in his being, and in harmony with God. His thoughts were pure, his aims holy. BUT through disobedience, his powers were perverted, and selfishness took the place of love. His nature became so weakened through transgression that it was impossible for him, in his own strength, to resist the power of evil. He was made captive by Satan, and would have remained so forever had not God specially interposed.** It was the tempter's purpose to thwart the divine plan in man's creation, and fill the earth with woe and desolation. And he would point to all this evil as the result of God's work in creating man.

#### **Counsels on Stewardship 24.2**

**Selfishness is the essence of depravity**, and because human beings have yielded to its power, the opposite of allegiance to God is seen in the world today. Nations, families, and individuals are filled with a desire to make self a center. Man longs to rule over his fellow men. Separating himself in his egotism from God and his fellow beings, he follows his unrestrained inclinations. He acts as if the good of others depended on their subjection to his supremacy. {CS 24.2}

#### **Patriarchs And Prophets 61.4**

**But they were told that their nature had become depraved by sin**; they had lessened their strength to resist evil and had opened the way for Satan to gain more ready access to them. In their innocence they had yielded to temptation; and now, in a state of conscious guilt, they would have less power to maintain their integrity.

#### **Signs Of the Times, March 30, 1904.1**

**Man has fallen. God's image in him is defaced. By disobedience he is depraved in inclination and weakened in power**, unable, apparently, to look forward to anything but tribulation and wrath. But God, through Christ, has wrought out a way of escape, and He says to every one, "Be ye therefore perfect." It is His purpose that man shall stand before Him upright and noble, and He will not be defeated. He sent His Son to this world to bear the penalty of sin, and to show man how to live a sinless life. {ST, November 3, 1904}

**1. Sinful propensities – nature was perverted, deranged, depraved, in all his powers of mind, body, and spirit on account of sin. A bent to evil, naturally selfish.**

**2. Innocent infirmities – nature was weakened, deteriorated, diminished of body, mind, and spirit, subject to death. The unavoidable consequence of sin. (SW)**

#### **Review And Herald, May 3, 1906.2**

**When Adam apostatized, he placed himself on Satan's side; his nature became evil, and he became separated from God.** Had there been no interference on the part of God, Satan and man would have formed an alliance against heaven, and together they would have carried on a battle against God. There is not a natural enmity between fallen angels and fallen man. Naturally both are united in rebellion against good. Evil, wherever it exists, will always league with evil against good, so that naturally fallen angels and fallen men are linked in a desperate companionship.

#### **Signs Of The Times, December 2, 1913**

God declares: "I will put enmity." This enmity is not naturally entertained. **When man transgressed the divine law, his nature became evil, and he was in harmony, and not at variance, with Satan. There**

**exists naturally no enmity between sinful man and the originator of sin. Both became evil through apostasy.** The apostate is never at rest, except as he obtains sympathy and support by inducing others to follow his example. For this reason fallen angels and wicked men unite in desperate companionship. Had not God specially interposed, Satan and man would have entered into an alliance against Heaven; and instead of cherishing enmity against Satan, the whole human family would have been united in opposition to God. {GC 505.2}

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**When Adam and Eve were placed in the Garden of Eden, they were innocent and sinless, in perfect harmony with God.** Enmity had no natural existence in their hearts. **But when they transgressed, their nature was no longer sinless. They became evil, for they had placed themselves on the side of the fallen foe,** doing the very things that God specified they should not do. Had there been no interference on the part of God, fallen humans would have formed a firm alliance with Satan against heaven... {CTr 28.5}

#### **Patriarchs And Prophets 53.2**

**...But should they once yield to temptation, their nature would become so depraved that in themselves they would have no power and no disposition to resist Satan.**

#### **Signs Of The Times, February 13, 1893.6**

**When man sinned, all heaven was filled with sorrow; for through yielding to temptation, man became the enemy of God, a partaker of the Satanic nature. The image of God in which he had been created was marred and distorted. The character of man was out of harmony with the character of God; for through sin man became carnal, and the carnal heart is enmity against God, is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.** To the angels there seemed to be no way of escape for the transgressor. They ceased their songs of praise, and throughout the heavenly courts there was mourning for the ruin sin had wrought. **Out of harmony with the nature of God, unyielding to the claims of his law, naught but destruction was before the human race.**

#### **Faith And Works 21.1, 2**

...By rebellion and apostasy man forfeited the favor of God; not his rights, for he could have no value except as it was invested in God's dear Son. This point must be understood. He forfeited those privileges which God in His mercy presented him as a free gift, a treasure in trust to be used to advance His cause and His glory, to benefit the beings He had made. **The moment the workmanship of God refused obedience to the laws of God's kingdom, that moment he became disloyal to the government of God and he made himself entirely unworthy of all the blessings wherewith God had favored him.**

**This was the position of the human race after man divorced himself from God by transgression. Then he was no longer entitled to a breath of air, a ray of sunshine, or a particle of food. And the reason why man was not annihilated was because God so loved him that He made the gift of His dear Son that He should suffer the penalty of his transgression...**

#### **Review And Herald, April 23, 1901.9**

Adam listened to the words of the tempter, and yielding to his insinuations, fell into sin. **Why was not the death penalty at once enforced in his case?--Because a ransom was found.** God's only begotten Son volunteered to take the sin of man upon himself, and to make an atonement for the fallen race. There could have been no pardon for sin had this atonement not been made. Had God pardoned Adam's sin without an atonement, sin would have been immortalized, and would have been perpetuated with a boldness that would have been without restraint. Remember how soon after the transgression of Adam the apostasy of his posterity became so marked that God repented that He had made man. They followed the imaginations of their evil hearts, and the strivings of the Spirit were not heeded. They refused to be admonished. They had an abundance of blessings for their own enjoyment, and they soon forgot that they had forfeited immortality.

**1 Bible Commentary 1085.2**

**The instant man accepted the temptations of Satan, and did the very things God had said he should not do, Christ, the Son of God, stood between the living and the dead, saying, "Let the punishment fall on Me. I will stand in man's place. He shall have another chance"**

**3 Spiritual Gifts 46.3**

**...For the sake of his dear Son the Father forbears a while the execution of death, and to Christ he commits the fallen race.**

**Conflicts And Courage 20.6**

**...Adam and Eve were given a probation in which to return to their allegiance, and in this plan all their posterity were embraced.**

**Praise God for the Saviour, our sinless yet sympathetic Saviour that He sent to bring us back to our God ordained, sin forfeited, but blood salvaged destiny. (SW)**