Education & Formation The Good News of Biblical Anthropology

September 17-October 22



INTRODUCTION

"What is man that you are mindful of him?" This question asked a long time ago by the Psalmist is being asked again today. It is the real question behind our hot-button questions. Conflict about race, confusion about gender, or questions about the sanctity of human life, all start from a very simple question: "What is man?" Answer that question correctly, you'll get a lot of clarity. Answer that question wrongly, you'll get a lot of confusion.

During the fall semester of Education and Formation, we hope to answer that question, answer it correctly and provide some clarity. The Education and Formation committee has put together a great agenda: Looking mainly at the creation account in Genesis, we will consider the bible's answer to the question "What is man?" Further, we have lined up some really excellent teachers. I am delighted to learn from them.

Though currently a subject of some confusion, the bible's answer to the question "What is man?" is good news. I hope you will join us this fall for our class: "The Good News of Biblical Anthropology."

Warmly,

David.

SYLLABUS

DATE	SPEAKER
9/17	Gradon Zorzi
9/24	David Gustafson
10/1	Albert Thompson
10/8	Brad Littlejohn
10/15	David Glade
10/22	Emma Waters

SEPTEMBER 17 Graedon Zorzi

Graedon Zorzi is Assistant Professor of Theology and Philosophy at Patrick Henry College. He holds a Ph.D. in Political Science and Religious Studies from Yale University, and his research focuses on early modern Christian moral and political thought. He is an ordained priest, resident in the Anglican Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic.

OUR CREATED NATURE

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." ~Genesis 1:26

• Creation from nothing: goodness and dependence

• Intentional creation: function and ethics

• Intentional creation: purpose and teleology

SEPTEMBER 24 DAVID GUSTAFSON

David Gustafson has been a member of The Falls Church Anglican since 1998. He has occasionally taught adult classes at TFCA and other churches, and he has taught the high school confirmation class at TFCA for 17 years. David's wife Sharon is a deacon at TFCA, and they have 9 children and 20 grandchildren. David is a lawyer by training.

Our Amphibious nature

Then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

~Genesis: 2.7

Humanity is made "in the image of God" (Gen. 1:26-27) and made "of the dust of the ground" (Gen. 2:7)--a spiritual/physical amphibian!

This signals two possible errors:

- 1. 20th-century: Negate or detach the soul?
- 2. 21st-century: Negate or detach the body? Is this a new error?
- 1. What does the Bible reveal--

about fallen Man and his body?

about UN-fallen Man and his body?

about redeemed humanity and their bodies?

about Jesus Christ and his body?

2. I am not just a body that possesses a soul as a feature; and I am not just a soul temporarily inhabiting a body.

Rather, I am a unified human person with a human soul and human body forever united.

OCTOBER 1 Albert Thompson

Albert Russell Thompson Jr. is a conflict, culture, and identity historian specializing in America during the New Deal & Second World War, the Troubles in Northern Ireland, and the history of Race. He has served on the Vestry of Christ the King, the Standing Committee of the Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic, was a North American delegate to GAF-CON 2023 in Kigali and currently serves on the Executive Committee of the Anglican Church of North America and the ACNA 2030 Task Force. After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands ~Revelation 7:9

The claim that all of humanity is one race has grave theological consequences.

All humanity is Homines ad imaginem Dei, a people in the image of God and uniquely accountable to Him.

All humanity is inheritably Fallen and individually Sinful.

All humanity requires a Savior and individually requires Grace.

OCTOBER 8 Brad Littlejohn

Brad Littlejohn (Ph.D., University of Edinburgh) is the Founder and President of the Davenant Institute, an organization dedicated to retrieving the riches of classical Protestantism to renew the contemporary church. He is also a Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center. Brad was raised in the Reformed faith and received a B.A. and M.A. from New Saint Andrews College before discovering the intellectual love of his life during his studies at Edinburgh, the Anglican theologian Richard Hooker. Since completing his doctorate in 2013, he has written and lectured extensively on Hooker, the history of the Reformation, political theology, and Christian ethics. He is the author of Richard Hooker: A Companion to His Life and Work and the forthcoming Called to Freedom: Retrieving the Liberty of a Christian in an Age of License, among other books. He has taught at Moody Bible Institute and Patrick Henry College, and is a regular columnist at WORLD magazine's Opinions column. He is married to Rachel and has four high-intensity homeschooled children; after a stint in north Idaho and another in northern Virginia, they moved into the house where he grew up in upstate South Carolina in 2021.

OUR UNIQUE NATURE

Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

~ Psalm 8:5

1. What does it mean to be created in God's image?

2. How does this relate to the task of dominion?

3. What does this imply about human capabilities and the human calling?

4. How do the Ten Commandments follow from this vision of human nature?

5. How does this vision of humanity challenge contemporary society?

OCTOBER 15 David Glade

David is the founding pastor of Christ the King. David received his undergraduate degree from Florida State University ('96), his Masters of Divinity from Trinity School for Ministry ('04), and his Doctor of Ministry from The Catholic University of America ('22). David was ordained to the presbytery on January 27, 2005 by Archbishop Robert Duncan and was installed as the rector of Christ the King on November 21, 2008. Before planting Christ the King, David served on the pastoral staff of The Falls Church. David and his wife, Jennifer, have been married 20+ years and have six children. "male and female he created them."

~Genesis 1:27

Gender as understood in the trans-gender movement.

Gender as understood in the bible.

Transformation as understood in the transgender movement.

Transformation as understood in the bible.

Tips for exilic navigation from 1 Peter

OCTOBER 22 Emma Waters

Emma Waters is a Research Associate at the Heritage Foundation in the DeVos Center for Life, Religion, and Family. Additionally, Emma is a Visiting Fellow with Independent Women's Forum and a columnist at World magazine where she writes on faith, culture, and values. She is a member of Christ the King where she loves leading the high school girls' Bible study.

"The greatness and the wretchedness of men are so evident that the true religion must necessarily teach us both that there is in man some great source of greatness, and a great source of wretchedness. It must then give us an explanation of these astonishing contradictions. In order to make man happy, it must prove to him that there is a God, and we ought to love Him, that our true happiness is to be in Him, and our sole evil to be separated from Him."

~Blaise Pascal

OUR FALLEN NATURE

"For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

~Genesis 3:5;

Definition of terms: What do we mean when we say humanity is fallen?

• In order to live a good life, we must understand our fallen nature.

• The tree of the knowledge of good and evil was not placed in the garden as an eternal "no," but as a "not yet."

• Knowledge of sin and evil does not make one wise; following the law of Christ does lead to wisdom and knowledge of how to live in a fallen world.

On the road to Emmaus, we see a complementary fulfillment of Genesis 3 in Luke when Christ draws near "and their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight." (Luke 24:31).

- Despite our fallen nature, we know and see Christ through the study of God's Word and the breaking of bread in the eucharist.
- Christians must cultivate hope, humor, and holiness.

