

## SECTION 4: MAN

### Paragraph A: Creation and fall

We believe that man was created in innocence under the law of his Maker, but by Adam's willful transgression, fell from his sinless and happy state in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not only by constraint, but of choice; therefore totally depraved, and of himself, utterly unable to remedy his lost condition. Man, being a sinner by personal choice, is under just condemnation without defense or excuse. *Genesis 1:26, 2:17, 3:22-23; Psalm 49:7-9; John 3:3-21; Romans 1:20, 5:12-14, 5:19.*

### Paragraph B: Total Depravity

We believe that through Adam's sin, spiritual death, being total corruption of the human nature, took place and has been transmitted to the entire race of man, save the Man Christ Jesus. No spark of divine life exists in man but we are by nature sinners, being at enmity against God and incapable by any human process whatever of earning His favor. *Genesis 3:1-7, 6:5; Psalm 51:5; Isaiah 64:6; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 1:28-32; 3:22-23; 8:6-7; Ephesians 2:1-3*

### Paragraph C: Need of the New Birth

We believe that, owing to universal depravity and death in sin, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless born again; that no degree of reformation however great, or culture however attractive, no baptism or other ordinance however administered, no religion however sincere, can help the sinner to take even one step toward heaven; but a new nature imparted from above, a new life implanted by the Holy Spirit through the Word is absolutely essential to salvation. *Psalm 14:1-3; Matthew 7:21-23; John 3:3; Galatians 3:22; Philippians 3:4-9; Titus 3:5; I Peter 1:23; I John 3:8-10*