Appendix B
Doctrinal Statements on Man and Sin

<u>The following is from my ordination council doctrinal paper in 2006:</u>

ANTHROPOLOGY

I believe man was created on the sixth day of the creation week in the image of God to glorify Him forever (Isa 43:7; Rom 11:36; 1 Cor 10:31; Rev 4:11). This creation was God's direct and supernatural act apart from any evolutionary process (Gen 1:26-27, 2:7). The image of God is man's finite replication of his Creator, consisting of personality (Col 3:9-10), spirituality (Eph 4:24), and morality (Gen 9:6; Rom 2:14-15; Eph 4:24). This image, although severely marred at the fall, is not totally lost (Gen 9:6; Jas 3:9). Man has a will by which he is able to make voluntary, spontaneous, rational, morally responsible decisions (Rom 2:6; Col 3:25). His will responds to his nature (Rom 8:7-8) and is not free from his own limitations (Gen 27:22; Job 38:12-24; John 5:6-7), God's will and decree (Exod 4:21; Josh 11:20; Acts 4:27-28; Rev 17:17), or the power and effects of sin (Rom 3:10-11; 6:20).

Man is composed of both material and immaterial parts; the former consists of the body, the latter of soul and spirit (Matt 10:28; 1 Thess 5:23; Heb 4:12; Jas 2:26). Man was immediately created in Adam, both material and immaterial parts, and both are propagated from him by natural generation (Gen 5:3; Ps 51:5; John 3:6; Rom 5:12). Physical death results in the separation of man's material and immaterial parts (Acts 7:59; Jas 2:26).

Adam possessed unconfirmed and untested creaturely holiness before the fall (Gen 1:31). He chose to disobey God and fell into sin, bringing spiritual and physical death upon himself and the whole human race (Gen 2:17; Rom 5:12-19). All men are thus declared sinners (Rom 5:18-19), are born sinners (Job 5:7; 25:4; Ps 51:5; 58:3), and sin by choice (Rom 3:23; 7:19). All men are totally depraved and spiritually dead, alienated from God and the life that is in Him, completely and entirely unwilling and unable to remedy their condition (Rom 3:10-19; Eph 2:1-3).

HAMARTIOLOGY

I believe that sin is lack of conformity to the moral law and character of God, in both voluntary and involuntary acts (Rom 7:19; Psa 19:12), state/ disposition (Jer 17:9), thought (Gen 6:5; Matt 5:27-28; Acts 8:22) or omission (Jas 4:17). The essence of sin is selfishness, as all sins have self as their goal and end. Thus autonomous man desires to free himself from the bonds of the Creator-creature distinction (Gen 3:5; Rom 1:21-23). Man makes self the object and affection of his life (Ps 10:1-4), the supreme end and center of his existence instead of God his Creator (Ps 14:1; Ezek 28:2; 2 Thess 2:4).

Sin entered the universe through the fall of Satan (1 Tim 3:6; 1 John 3:8) and the human race through the fall of Adam (Gen 2:17; Rom 5:12-19). Each individual stands guilty before God and is under condemnation due to Adam's transgression, mankind's federal representative (Rom 5:12). All men in Adam immediately have Adamic sin and guilt (the old man) imputed at conception. The corruption of that guilt from man's legal connection with Adam issues in the sin nature (complex of

attributes) by natural generation (Rom 5:12-19). All actual transgressions proceed from this original corruption.

The extent of depravity is total, so that man's entire being is thoroughly penetrated and corrupted by sin, including his body (Rom 8:10), mind (Rom 8:6-7), emotions (Eph 4:17-19), and will (John 8:34). As a result, man by his nature does not desire salvation (Ps 10:4; 36:4; Rom 3:11, 18; 8:5-8), is not able to save himself (John 6:44, 65; Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5), and left to himself he cannot and will not seek salvation (John 1:13; 3:3, 5; Rom 3:11).

The consequence of man's imputed and individual sin is death (Rom 6:23): physical death, the separation of the body from the soul (Jas 2:26); spiritual death, the separation of the person from God (Eph 2:1); and the second death, eternal damnation in the lake of fire (Rev 20:14-15).

The believer is no longer totally depraved because Adamic guilt (the old man) is removed and no longer exists after salvation (Rom 6:6; Col 3:9), and because of the new nature imparted at regeneration (2 Pet 1:4). The sinful (old) nature remains in the believer but it no longer reigns supreme (Rom 6:6-14), though the believer must continually fight against its cravings (Gal 5:17; 1 Pet 2:11).

The following is from the doctrinal statement of Orwell Bible Church:

Section 6: Man and Sin

We believe God made man directly and supernaturally on the sixth day of the creation week apart from any evolutionary process (Gen 1:26-27). Man was perfectly made in the image of God to glorify Him forever (Gen 2:7; Eph 4:24; Rev 4:11), being composed of both material (body) and immaterial (soul/spirit) parts (Matt 10:28; 1 Thess 5:23; Heb 4:12; Jas 2:26), and possessing a mind, will, and emotions free from the corrupting effects and enslaving mastery of sin (Gen 1:31; 2:7, 15-25).

Sin is the failure to conform to God's holy character and is the transgression of his holy will (Rom 3:23; 1 John 3:4). The first man, Adam, fell from his original righteousness and communion with God through disobedience (Gen 2:17; 3:1-19), bringing sin, guilt, and condemnation upon himself and mankind through their connection with him (Rom 5:12-19). Adam's physical descendants inherited from him a corrupted sin nature from which all sin proceeds (Jas 1:14-15). Being a servant of sin (Rom 6:20), every person is sinful in his actions, nature, thoughts, and omissions (Rom 7:19; Jer 17:9; Gen 6:5; Eph 2:3; Jas 4:17).

All men are totally depraved and spiritually dead, alienated from God and the life that is in Him, their minds, wills, and emotions now thoroughly corrupted by and enslaved to sin (Rom 6:20; 8:5-8; Eph 4:17-19). The unsaved, left to themselves, are entirely unwilling and unable to submit to spiritual truth and seek salvation (John 8:42-47; Rom 3:10-18; 1 Cor 2:14). The consequence of sin is death (Rom 6:23): spiritual death, the separation of the person from God (Eph 2:1); physical death, the separation of the body from the soul (Jas 2:26); and the second death, eternal damnation in the lake of fire (Rev 20:14-15). Man is thus hopelessly lost apart from salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ (Titus 3:3-7).