

## The End of Christ's Coming (I John 3:8)

Introduction: Human knowledge points out the disease, but not the remedy for human ills. The answer is only found in the manifestation of Christ, who came to this earth to destroy sin and its effects upon the human race.

- I. What are the works of the devil?
  - A. Sin
    1. Man created in God's image
      - a). Natural image
        - 1) intelligence
        - 2) will
        - 3) liberty
      - b). Moral (spiritual) image
        - 1) righteousness
        - 2) holiness
        - 3) producing happiness
    2. Man fell by choosing evil.
      - a). Originated with Satan
      - b). Temptation of Eve  
Deception → unbelief → pride → self-will → desire → sin
  - B. Its fruits
    1. Life of God extinguished
    2. Glory departed
    3. Loss of the moral image of God
      - a). unholy
      - b). unhappy
      - c). natural image distorted
    4. Physical death
- II. How was the Son of God manifested?
  - A. In glory before the creation
  - B. Old Testament
    1. Adam and Eve
    2. Old Testament saints
  - C. In the revelation of Christ
    1. Birth
    2. Teaching
    3. Cross / Resurrection
  - D. Pentecost
  - E. Inward Manifestation in the hearts of believers

- III. How (by what steps) does he destroy work of devil?
- A. As in Eve
    - 1. Enlightens understanding (deception)
    - 2. Faith (unbelief)
    - 3. Humility (pride)
    - 4. Submission (self-will)
    - 5. Deliverance from desire (desire)
    - 6. Creature → Creator      Creator → Creation
  - B. Restores moral image
    - 1. favor, pardon, peace = righteousness
    - 2. love = holiness
    - 3. joy = happiness
  - C. Does not restore natural image
    - 1. Bodily weakness remains
    - 2. Ignorance and error remain
    - 3. Resurrection of body will destroy final work of Satan

Conclusion: What is real religion? Restoration

- A. To favor of God = deliverance (justification)
- C. To image of God = likeness of God (sanctification)

“Here then we see in the clearest light, what is real religion: A restoration of man by Him that bruises the serpent’s head, to all that the old serpent deprived him of; a restoration , not only to the favor but also the the image of God, implying not bare deliverance from sin, but the being filled with the fullness of God.”