

Study 3

THE GREAT HUMAN TRAGEDY

our nature:

(through 'The Moral Fall': the self-exaltation & death of humanity)

- **rebel children**
- **rebel creatures**
- **rebel servants (worshippers, rulers, stewards)**

now lifelessly & restlessly enslaved to unrighteousness—being:

1) OUT OF FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD

our heart defensive & hardened through guilt, there is:

*** a deadening, inner thrust of hostility towards Him**

always choosing to refuse His holy presence—with a dark spirit of:

- **disregard**
(‘He is nothing to me’)
- **unbelief**
(‘His word is nothing to me’)
- **ingratitude**
(‘He has done nothing for me’)
- **defiance**
(‘His will, way & pleasure mean nothing to me’)

2) DISHONOURING TO GOD

still capable of so much that’s grand, yet refusing His face there is:

*** a horrible mis-representation of Him**

through the accursed intrusion into our humanity of:

- **unholy affections**
(in our inner being **a polluted spring of moral impurity:** *strong, idolatrous passion* for the stimulation of sensory experience, the possession of magnificent things & the elevation of personal status; which is also *then* within us **a polluted spring of relational idolatry:** *falsely focused, fallen-human love* that incessantly looks to people, situations & things, *grasping* for what is not *received* from above—all making our heart more corrupt & self-serving than we realize)
- **non-truth**
(in our thinking a worldview that sees God, humanity & creation in a way that best promises to fulfill our passions)
- **foolishness & futility**
(in our daily, relational living much nobility, but *corruption* in all we desire, think, say & do—nothing of eternal worth)