

I'm Only Human! (Psalm 8:3-9)

You struggle with sin. So do I. That struggle will continue as long as we live. As we seek some explanation for this frustrating state of affairs, we may say something like this: "Of course I sin. I'm only human!"

"Only" human, did you say? That makes being human sound like something undesirable. David marveled at the wonders of God's creation in the eighth psalm. Oh, how magnificent it is that God would make humans "a little lower than the angels," crown them with glory and honor, and set them over the rest of His creation!

Please don't buy into the notion that being human means being sinful. Followers of John Calvin and many others teach that we were born sinful, having inherited a sinful nature from Adam. To the contrary, God's word teaches that it is God who give us our spirit (Hebrews 12:9; Ecclesiastes 12:7). Our holy God does not give us corrupt, sinful spirits!

Psalm 8:5 ("made a little lower than the angels") is quoted in Hebrews 2:9 and applied to Jesus. Our savior, who is eternal deity, took upon Himself a body of flesh just like ours! He was human, but He certainly was not sinful (Hebrews 4:15).

Some angels have also sinned (2 Peter 2:4). We would hardly expect them to cry out, "We're only angels!" They did not sin because they were angels, but because they chose to do so. Likewise we sin, not because we are human, but because we make wrong choices.

God created us in His own image (Genesis 1:26, 27). He made us a little lower than the angels, crowned us with glory and honor, and set us over the rest of the material creation. To be sure, "He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust" (Psalm 103:14). But saying we are "only human" utterly fails to appreciate how marvelous it is to be human!

We're human! Praise God!