

**“in the image of God”**

**Man**

**Genesis 1:27**

**“in the image of God”**

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**So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.**

# **“in the image of God”**

**Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice.**

**By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin.**

**Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God.**

**The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.**

# **“in the image of God”**

**Genesis 1:26-30**

**26** Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” **27** So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

**28** God blessed them and said to them,  
“Be fruitful and increase in number;  
fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over  
the fish in the sea and the birds in the  
sky and over every living creature that  
moves on the ground.” **29** Then God  
said, “I give you every seed-bearing  
plant on the face of the whole earth  
and every tree that has fruit with seed  
in it. They will be yours for food.



**30** And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move along the ground — everything that has the breath of life in it — I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.

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**Genesis 2:7, 21-22**

**7 Then the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.**

**21** So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh.

**22** Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

**“in the image of God”**

**Psalm 8:4**

**what is man that you are  
mindful of him, the son of  
man that you care for him?**

**“in the image of God”**

**“There is something in man that will not be satisfied with the seen and the temporal. Something in him cries out for the spiritual and the eternal... All men of all races and times have cried out for God.”**

**W. T. Connor**

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**Made in God’s image**

**Genesis 1:27**

**So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.**

# **“in the image of God”**

## **Genesis 5:1-2**

**1** This is the written account of Adam’s line. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. **2** He created them male and female and blessed them. And when they were created he called them “man.”

# **“in the image of God”**

## **Imago Dei**

- **Existence as a soul or spirit**
- **Being morally upright (lost in the Fall)**
- **Dominion over the environment**
- **The human body as the means through which we experience reality, express ourselves, and exercise dominion**
- **The God-given capacity for eternal life**



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**Male and Female**

**Genesis 1:27**

**So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.**

# **“in the image of God”**

**“The biblical teachings on gender directly conflict with the thinking of this secular world, which increasingly sees gender differences as nothing more than socially constructed forms of oppression. Movements for normalizing transsexualism and transgender procedures represent forms of rebellion against God’s purpose in creation.”**

**“Gender chaos now prevails in much of our culture, leading confusion and harm in the lives of individuals, families, and even churches. The creation of human beings as male and female and God’s common affirmation of both genders demonstrates God’s love for us and His design of different roles and responsibilities for men and women.”**

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# **“in the image of God”**

## **Mark 10:6-9**

**6** “But at the beginning of creation God ‘made them male and female.’ **7** ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, **8** and the two will become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. **9** Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.”

# **“in the image of God”**

## **Fallen from Innocence**

### **Genesis 2:16-17**

**16** And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; **17** but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.”

# **“in the image of God”**

## **Genesis 3:1-7**

**1** Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?” **2** The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,

**3** but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’ ” **4**

“You will not surely die,” the serpent said to the woman. **5** “For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

**6** When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. **7** Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.



# **“in the image of God”**

**“Once Adam sinned, all humanity came under the condemnation of sin. From Adam the entire human race inherits a nature that is fallen and inclined toward sin. We are not born in a state of moral innocence; no human being after Adam is innocent.”**

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## **Romans 3:10-18**

**10** As it is written: “There is no one righteous, not even one; **11** there is no one who understands; no one who seeks God. **12** All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.”

**13** “Their throats are open graves;  
their tongues practice deceit.” “The  
poison of vipers is on their lips.” **14**  
“Their mouths are full of cursing and  
bitterness.” **15** “Their feet are swift to  
shed blood; **16** ruin and misery mark  
their ways, **17** and the way of peace  
they do not know.” **18** “There is no  
fear of God before their eyes.”

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**Restored to Fellowship with God**

**Romans 5:12, 15**

**12** Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned —

**15** But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!

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## **Romans 5:8-11**

**8** But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**9** Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him!

**10** For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! **11** Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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**1 Thessalonians 5:9**

**For God did not appoint us  
to suffer wrath but to receive  
salvation through our Lord  
Jesus Christ.**



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**Romans 10:9-10, 13**

**9** If you confess with your mouth,  
“Jesus is Lord,” and believe in  
your heart that God raised him  
from the dead, you will be saved.

**10** For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

**13** for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

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**John 3:16**

**For God so loved the world  
that he gave his one and only  
Son, that whoever believes in  
him shall not perish but have  
eternal life.**

# Applications

- **We belong to God**
- **Pattern ourselves after Jesus**
- **We experience full humanity only when we are properly related to God**
- **Learning and work are good**
- **The human is valuable**

# Applications

- **“The Image of God” extends to all humanity, without distinctions of race, social status, and sex**

# **Final Thoughts**

## **Galatians 3:28**

**There is neither Jew nor  
Gentile, neither slave nor  
free, nor is there male and  
female, for you are all one in  
Christ Jesus.**