

“Created in the Image of God”

Series: Back To The Beginning

January 26, 2020

Pastor Chuck Pruett

New Life Church

Gen 1:26-27 (ESV) ²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” ²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

1. Why is it important that we are made in God’s image?

Image of God gives us...

1) VALUE

Ps 139:13-16 (NLT) ¹³ You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother’s womb. ¹⁴ Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. ¹⁵ You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. ¹⁶ You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.

Isa 44:24 (ESV) ²⁴ Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, who formed you from the womb: “I am the LORD, who made all things, who alone stretched out the heavens, who spread out the earth by myself,

Jer 1:5 (ESV) ⁵ “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

2) UNITY

2. What is the image of God?

Image of God is not...

1) PHYSICAL LIKENESS.

(John 1:18; 4:24; Rom. 1:20; Col. 1:15; 1 Tim. 1:17; 6:16).

John 1:18 (ESV) ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

John 4:24 (ESV) ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

Col 1:15 (ESV) ¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

Rom 1:20 (ESV) ²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

1 Tim 1:17 (ESV) ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

1 Tim 6:16 (ESV) ¹⁶ who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

2) "LITTLE GODS".

Image of God is...

Def: "The fact that man is in the image of God means that man is like God and represents God." (Systematic Theology by Wayne Grudem, pg 442)

Gen 5:3 (ESV) ³ When Adam had lived 130 years, he fathered a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth.

What are Image of God similarities?

1) Eternal SOUL.

1 Thess 5:23 (ESV) ²³ Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

John 3:16 (ESV) ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

2) Ability to REASON.

Isa 1:18 (ESV) ¹⁸ "Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

3) Capacity for MORAL GOODNESS.

Rom 2:14-15 (ESV) ¹⁴ For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. ¹⁵ They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them

4) RELATIONAL aspects.

5) CREATIVE.

3. Has the Fall of Man affected the "Image of God" in us?

Since the Fall: God's image is DISTORTED but not LOST. (*Systematic Theology by Wayne Grudem, pg 444*)

Gen 9:6 (ESV) ⁶ "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.

Jam 3:8-9 (ESV) ⁸ but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God.

Eccl 7:29 (NLT) ²⁹ But I did find this: God created people to be virtuous, but they have each turned to follow their own downward path."

4. Salvation at work in us is progressively recovering God's image in us.

Rom 8:29 (ESV) ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

Eph 4:22-24 (ESV) ²² to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, ²³ and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

Col 3:10 (ESV) ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.