

“You come from the Lord Adam and the Lady Eve,” said Aslan. “And that is both honour enough to erect the head of the poorest beggar, and shame enough to bow the shoulders of the greatest emperor on earth. Be content.” - C.S. Lewis, Prince Caspian

*When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?
- Psalm 8:3-4*

*For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.
- Psalm 139:13-14*

*Who am I, that the Lord of all the earth would care to know my name?
Would care to feel my hurt?
Who am I, that the bright and morning star would choose to light the way
For my ever wandering heart? - Casting Crowns, “Who am I?”*

In man God creates his image on earth. This means that man is like the Creator in that he is free. Actually he is free only by God’s creation, by means of the Word of God; he is free for the worship of the Creator. - Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Creation and Fall

Assignment:

1. What might you say to someone who says that abortion is okay because your just killing a lump of cells?
2. Read Genesis 1:26-2:1. How is man like the rest of God’s created works? In what ways? How is man unlike and distinguished from the rest of God’s created works?
3. What do you think God wants of mankind when he commands man and woman to have dominion over and subdue the earth?
4. Read Genesis 1:29-30. Do you think God’s original design was for man to be vegetarian? Why or why not?
5. What does Genesis 1:28-31 teach you about how God provides for his creatures?

The Image of God

Genesis 1:26-31

I. God breaks his rhythm to COUNCIL. (1:26)

A. Notice the Divine PLURAL: "Let us make man in our image."

1. What is the Divine Plural? Some options:

a) The "Royal We."

(1) Example: "We are not amused." - Queen Victoria

(a) Problem: This is not a popular way of referencing oneself until long after the Bible had been written.

b) The Divine ASSEMBLY

(1) Genesis 6:2; Deuteronomy 32:8; Job 1:6; Job 38:4-7; Psalm 82:1; Psalm 89:5-7

(2) Problems:

(a) Gen 1:27 shows only God doing the creating work.

(b) Gen 5:1. Only God again.

(c) Job 38:7. The Sons of God are looking and rejoicing, not creating.

(d) Psalm 139:13. You is a singular pronoun

(e) Isaiah 40:14, 25. No-one compares to God. God consulted no one.

c) The Dialogue of the HOLY TRINITY

(a) Genesis 1 shows God, Word, and Spirit.

(b) John 1:1-5

(c) Colossians 1:15-17

(d) Hebrews 1:1-2

II. God makes man in his IMAGE. (1:27)

A. Do not look to man's DEFINITION of man.

B. Look to what has been lost and what is found in CHRIST:

C. A Three Fold Office (Ephesians 4:23-24; Colossians 3:10-17)

1. KING (Rule, Justice, Goodness)

2. PRIEST (Worship, Holiness, Love, Beauty)

3. PROPHET (Righteousness, Truth)

III. God gives man the DOMINION MANDATE. (1:28)

A. Three Parts:

1. Be fruitful and MULTIPLY

2. Fill and SUBDUE the earth

3. Have DOMINION