

# Theology 2 – Man (The Doctrine of Man)

## THE DIVINE IMAGE

1. Results of the Divine Image
2. The Divine Image and Woman
3. The ultimate end of the image of God in man
4. Man was created in the “Image of God”
5. What does image of God refer?
  - a. Moral Nature
  - b. Intellectual Nature
  - c. Physical Appearance
  - d. The Trinity of man
  - e. Unlimited Potential



## DISCUSSION POINTS

1. Dominion
2. Immortality (incorruptible, endless, eternal)
3. The Crown or capstone of God’s creation – Man’s position with God and Creation
4. Exposition of Truth

A Contrast of Adam and Eve to the divine image and nature of God

What is the image and likeness of God?

“Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature” (**Colossians 1:15**). (KJV)

“And have put on the new *man*, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him” (**Colossians 3:10**). (KJV)

**Exposition of Truth** – Adam and Eve were created immortal. Had they not sinned, they never would have died.

# The Divine Image

Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; **Hebrews 1:3** (KJV)

## Immortal

{incorruptible, endless, eternal}

See Gen. 2:17; Rom 5:12; 6:23-

**Death** threaten them if they became disobedient to their creator.

**What is Death and Life? Discussion.**

1. Adam and Eve were created **immortal** is clear from Genesis 2:17; Rom. 5:12; 6:33.
2. Had they not sinned, they never would have died.
3. **Death** was threatened them if they would become disobedient to their Creator.
4. Whether they would have dwelled endlessly in Paradise, or whether God would have received them into heaven in His own time scripture does not say.
5. With respect to immortality we rightly distinguish between absolute and relative, or condition, immortality.

It is one thing... **Discussion**

- Not to be able to die; **The Saint in Heaven**
- To be able not to die; **Adam and Eve in their state of integrity**
- Not to be able to die; **All sinners after the Fall**

**Explain these concepts:**

Image -

Original -

Intellectual –

Will –

Living by – the word and/or voice of God

## Dominion

{Is this an inherited blessing? If so for what purpose?}

“Then **down marched** the remnant of the noble; the people of the LORD marched down for me against the mighty” (Judges 5:13). (ESV)

**Power to subdue**

**With authority**

**To rule over; nations, people, regions, etc.**

“Then he made him that remained **have dominion** over the nobles among the people: the LORD made me have dominion over the mighty” (Judges 5:13). (KJV)

## The Crown or capstone of God's creation {Man's position with God and Creation}

1. The reference point of the crown and/or capstone of creation is signified by
2. Dominion – God given authority to Adam
3. Uprightness – God's standard and behavior through obedience, a state of integrity
4. Holiness – To mirror God's ways, word and works; to be without sin, shame, and a need to withdraw from God.
5. Divine Expectation and intervention:
  - a) Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him.
  - b) By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having **pleased God**. **Hebrews 11:5 (ESV)**.
  - c) Mission – And God blessed them. And God said to them, “**Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it**, and **have dominion** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”  
**Genesis 1:28 (ESV)**
  - d) Privileged and honored in the work of God... **Genesis 2:20**

# Results of the Divine Image

1. Man's dominion over the creatures, according to scriptures was an immediate result of his possession of the divine image. The dominion of man must be regarded as real sovereignty, so that all the other creatures willingly rendered him service.
2. After the Fall man possess only a faint vestige of this absolute dominion, since now he must apply force and cunning to control the creatures over which he endeavors to rule.
3. The rebellion of the creatures against man is the direct consequences of his own rebellion against God, or of the loss of his concreated wisdom, holiness and righteousness and should continually remind him of the heinousness of sin and of the dreadfulness of its effect.

# The Divine Image and Woman

A. Eve possessed the divine image:

a) Genesis 1:27

b) Col. 3:10; Eph. 4:24; Gal 3:28; there is no difference between male and female

c) Genesis 1:28, where dominion is ascribed to the woman as well to the man.

Nevertheless the woman in her relation to the man occupied a position of subjection even before the Fall; for not only was she taken from man, but she was also created as helpmeet, Gen. 2:18-22; I Cor. 11:7-9; I Tim. 2:11-13

B. Woman was to be regarded with reverence; for she is God's handiwork. She was created that she might be a helpmeet for her husband, bring up children and rear them in faith and piety.

- Both the man and woman serve best in that relation or sphere in which God has created each; Eph 5:21-33; Titus 2:3-5; I Cor. 7:20. Nonetheless, the abrogation (*nullification*) of the divine order will result in confusion and injury for human society.

# The Ultimate End of the Image of God in MAN

Purpose: God bestowed His divine image upon man in order...

- a) That he might know and serve Him and experience perfect enjoyment in communion with Him
- b) That he might be His representative (not Satan) ruler upon the earth, Gen. 1:27-28.
- c) As after the Fall the redemption of man was motivated by divine love, John 3:16, so also the creation of man in God's image before the Fall, Ps. 104:23-24; 136:1-9.
- d) Man in the state of integrity intimately knew God, he did not know the eternal decree of redemption; for this was especially revealed to him after the Fall, Gen. 3:15.

## The Moral Nature

Possibly the greatest way in which man resembled his Maker was in his moral nature. Man was created sinless with an absolute purity and holiness. In fact, he was clothed with the righteousness of God. It was because of this fact; he was able to have fellowship with God. It was this that he lost in the fall and caused him to realize that he was naked.

## The Intellectual Nature of Man

1. The intellectual powers of man from the beginning prove that man is not evolved from a lower order but was created in the image of his Creator. He was given the intelligence necessary to name all living creatures and have dominion over this earth.
2. He was given power to reason and to make decisions.
3. He was created a free will moral agent.
4. It was because of this God granted ability that man was able to make wrong decision and sin in the original transgression.

## The Physical Appearance of MAN

A. God is spirit and invisible but it was in the plan and purpose of Deity to manifest himself in the flesh in the incarnation.

1. If the "image of God" has any reference to man's physical appearance it was in the likeness of the man Christ Jesus who was to be born at Bethlehem.
2. Let us remember that as far as time is concerned, the advent of Christ took place at a definite point in history, but as far as God is concerned who saw it from the beginning.

## The Trinity of MAN

A. I Thessalonians 5:23 and the very God peace sanctify you wholly; **I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved** blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1. Man is body, soul, and spirit. We would not ordinarily introduce this thought here. We do so because some would use this to try to prove that man was made in the image of the trinity, and therefore another proof that there are three persons in the Godhead.
2. However, the very opposite is true and proven. Even as man is body, soul, and spirit, and yet one person bearing one name, so is the Creator, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, but yet one person bearing one name, JESUS.

## The Unlimited Potential of MAN

1. God has given man unlimited potentials. Man can rise higher and sink lower than any other of God's creatures.
2. In Mark's Gospel, Chapter 5, We have the story of man possessed with a legion of demons. This one man was able to contain more demons' powers than two thousand swine were able to contain.
3. Only God Himself knows the potentials of man both for good and evil. No other of God's creatures can come close to the potentials of man.

# Thank You

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