

1 JESUS, THE TRUE IMAGE OF GOD

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

2 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

- ³ But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. ⁵ For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

3 THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL

- It is a powerful light
- Romans 1:16: ¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.
- 1 Corinthians 1:17,18: "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."

4 It is a message

- 1 Cor. 15:1-4: Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, ² by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. ³ For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,

5 It produces the miracle of the new birth

- 2 Corinthians 5:17: ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone *is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*
- Colossians 3:10: "and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him."

6 Jesus Christ, the True Image of God

- The image of God in the spirit of man was broken and distorted.
- God's love provided a plan to save man.
 - Jesus was God Himself
 - John 1:1: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
 - Col. 2:9: "In Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily."

7 Jesus is God revealed

- John 1:14: ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.
- John 1:18: ¹⁸ No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared *Him*.

8 He came to show us the way back to God.

- John 14:6: ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
- Matthew 7:13,14: ¹³ "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.* ¹⁴ *Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.*

9 Hebrews 1:1-3

- "God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by (His) Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; ³ 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 at the right hand of the Majesty on high."

10  **These statements could only be made about God.**

- Express image = exact likeness; identical
- God has spoken through Him.
- Heir of all things
- Made the worlds
- Brightness of God's glory
- Upholding all things by the word of His power
- Purged our sins
- Sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high

11  **Colossians 1:15-17**

- ¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

12  **Colossians 1:18-20**


- ¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. ¹⁹ For it pleased *the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell*, ²⁰ *and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.*

13  **Colossians 1:15-20**


- He is the image of the invisible God
- He is eternally the image of God - "Firstborn over all creation," v. 15
- "He is before all things," v. 17
- He is the Creator of all things, v. 16.
- "In Him all things consist," v. 17b
 - Evidenced in nature
 - True in the daily events of history

14  **JESUS CHRIST--THE TRUE IMAGE OF MAN**

- John 1:14: ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.
- Philippians 2:6--"made in the likeness of man"
- Galatians 4:4-5: ⁴ But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

15  **Son of man - the perfect man**

- Romans 5:12, 15, 18-19: ¹² Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned— ¹⁵ But the free gift *is not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many.*

16  **Son of man - the perfect man - 2**

- Romans 5:18, 19: ¹⁸ Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. ¹⁹ For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.

17  **1 Corinthians 15:20-22**

- "But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive."

18  **1 Corinthians 15:47-49**

- ⁴⁷ "The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly. ⁴⁹ And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man."