

**Subject: *The God of Adam and Eve – Part 3***

**Scripture: *Genesis 1:26-31***

This will be our last message in Genesis 1, so I want us to review briefly what God has told us this foundational chapter.

1. God created all things out of nothing.
2. God created all things in six consecutive 24-hour days.
3. God created all things in an orderly manner.
4. God created all things by His wisdom and power.
5. God revealed His sovereign control over all details of creation.
6. God revealed His goodness and declared everything was good.
7. God introduced the doctrine of the Trinity.
8. God created Adam and Eve in His image.
9. God gave Adam and Eve dominion over other creatures.
10. God gave Adam and Eve the ability to bear children.
11. God provided food for Adam and Eve.

We have already considered 1-7. In this message we will look at the last four things that God did and then understand what God revealed about Himself.

**1. God created Adam and Eve in His image (Gen. 1:26, 27)**

Of all creatures God made, man was unique. Only of man was it said that he was made in the image of God.

- A. The image of God refers to man's spiritual, moral, mental, and relational capacity – It does not refer to a physical likeness. God is spirit and does not have a physical body. The word “image” (Heb. *tselem*) means a copy, but carries the idea of representation. The word “likeness” (Heb. *demuth*) refers to a pattern or form and signifies something patterned after an original. The following characteristics define what it means to be made in God's image: 1) man is a living, self-conscious being with personality; 2) man has a will and the ability to make choices; 3) man has a rational mind that can think, remember, imagine, understand, and communicate with language; 4) man can experience a wide variety of emotions and feelings; and 5) man can have a relationship with God and other people. Man is a personal, volitional, rational, emotional, and relational creature. Man also has a spiritual likeness (ability to pray, to know God, and to worship); a moral likeness (a sense of right and wrong and justice). He has a unique likeness to God that is not given to any other creature.
- B. Adam and Eve were both made in the image of God – Adam was not superior to Eve, and Eve was not superior to Adam. They were not identical, but they were equal. They had different roles and different assignments, but they were equal.
- C. All people are created in the image of God – No matter when or where they are born, no matter where they live, no matter what their physical features or skin color may be, all are created in God's image. No one is made any more or any less in God's image.

All people are created in God's image even after sin and the fall of man in Genesis 3. Since that time the image of God has been damaged, but not destroyed, and it has been marred, but not erased. The fall and curse on humanity distorts the image of God, but does not remove it

**Genesis 5:1-3** *In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him; <sup>2</sup> Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created. <sup>3</sup> And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth.*

**Genesis 9:6** *Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.*

**James 3:8-9** <sup>8</sup> *But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup> Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude (likeness) of God.*

The value of human life is based on the truth that we are created by God and we are created in God's image. From conception to death, we bear the image of God.

To say that we are made in the image of God does not mean that we are or ever will be God. We are like God, that's all...but that's enough.

Augustine wrote: "Men go out and gaze in astonishment at high mountains, the huge waves of the sea, the broad reaches of rivers, the ocean that encircles the world, or the stars in their courses. But they pay no attention to themselves."

## **2. God gave Adam and Eve dominion over other creatures (Gen. 1:26, 28)**

This is so important that God mentioned it twice in the creation record, and it is also mentioned in Psalm 8.

**Psalms 8:3-9** <sup>3</sup> *When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; <sup>4</sup> What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? <sup>5</sup> For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honor. <sup>6</sup> Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet: <sup>7</sup> All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field; <sup>8</sup> The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas. <sup>9</sup> O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!*

- A. This dominion was delegated by God – God has all dominion and authority and He chose to delegate some of His authority to people. He delegated authority to the first couple, to parents in the home, to leaders in civil government, and to spiritual leaders in the church.
- B. This dominion was limited by God – God gave them dominion over the fish, the birds, the cattle, over all the earth, and over every creeping thing. This dominion was limited to the earth and the animal kingdom. Man's dominion did not include authority over Satan, demons, or holy angels.

**Colossians 1:16-17** <sup>16</sup> For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: <sup>17</sup> And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

All things were created by Christ and by Him all things consist (hold together), and all things are under His dominion. But all things are not under man's dominion.

### **3. God gave Adam and Eve the ability to reproduce and bear children (Gen. 1:27, 28)**

The confusion of male and female that is growing in our culture is an abomination. God intended for one male and one female to be joined in marriage, have children, and continue the human race.

When God later revealed more about the creation of Adam in Genesis 2, He saw the loneliness of Adam and made a helper suitable for him. This is the first time that God said something was not good.

### **Genesis 2:18-22**

Adam was lonely, but he needed more than companionship. He needed a certain kind of companion...one who was like him, but different from him.

### **4. God provided food for Adam and Eve (Gen. 1:29)**

God created them and sustained them. We see this again in Genesis 2:9.

**Genesis 2:9** And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food...

What did God reveal about Himself on the sixth day of creation?

- A. God revealed something about His image (nature)
- B. God revealed something about His dominion and authority
- C. God revealed something about His goodness – God said everything was good, and after the sixth day He said it was very good.
- D. God revealed something about His faithfulness – God provided for the needs of Adam and Eve and for all creatures. He gave them a special place.
- E. God revealed something about His personal involvement (immanence) – He is both transcendent and immanent. God was personally involved in the creation of Adam and Eve.

By creation God forms us. Then sin deforms us. By grace in salvation God reforms us.

***Ephesians 2:8-10***  
***2 Corinthians 5:17***