

So, God created man in his own image, in the image of God he

*created*

him; male and female, he created them.

**GENESIS 1:27**

**Equal and Diverse**

Genesis 1:26-31

# The equality of humanity

**Genesis 1:26-28** created in God's image (equality)

- Male and female (diversity/different)
- Genesis 2:7-25 Creation of Adam/Eve; origin of marriage
- Equality of worth Gen 1:27; John 3:16
- Equality of spiritual need Rom 3:23; John 14:6
- Equality in Christ Gal 3:28-29 Col 3:11
- Equality before God Acts 10:34-35; Romans 2:11

## **This is basis of freedom**

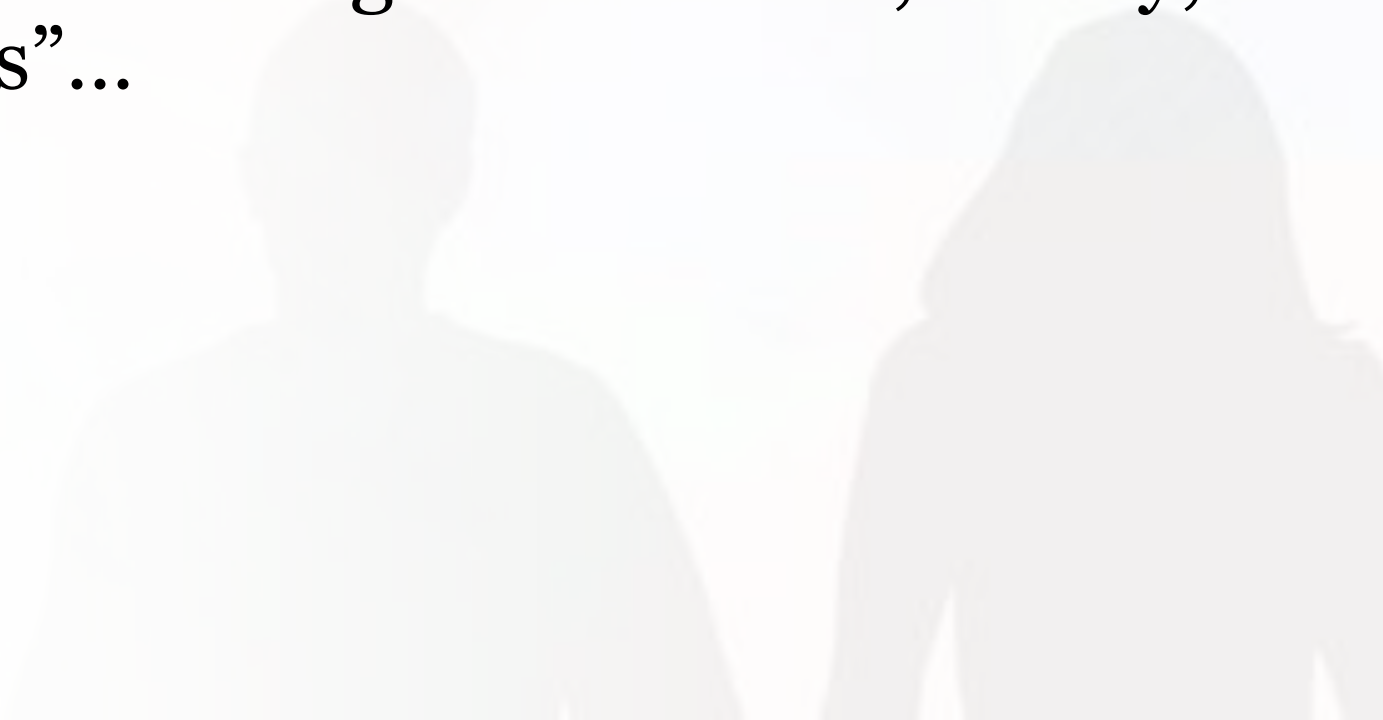
“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness”...

So, God created man in his own image, in the image of

*created*

and they were created in the image of God.

GENESIS 1:27



# The Equality Act (HR-5)



Civil Rights Act (1964) – prohibits discrimination on basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin

- Religious Freedom Restoration Act (1993) protection of religious exercise (1<sup>st</sup> Amendment)
- “Equality Act” makes sexual orientation, gender identity protected classes

# The Bible and diversity

## Natural differences – Exodus 4:11

- Physically, intellectually, emotionally, economically
- Different backgrounds, gifts, talents, roles, responsibility
- Scriptural treatment of slavery – Eph 6:5-8

## Behavior differences – Gen 3:16-19

- Effects of sin – disease, poverty, mistreatment, injustice
- God sees and cares – Deut 10:18; Acts 6:1; 1 Tim 5:3
- Wise and foolish – Prov 10:8,14 Matt 7:25-28

# What can we do?

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Live justly – Micah 6:8 James 2:1-13 Mark 10:40

- Equality treatment, not outcome – John 16:33 Matt 26:11
- Be Informed – 1 Chronicles 12:32 Esther 4
- Be Active – Pray 1 Tim 2:1-2 Speak truth in love Eph 4:15
- Put Hope in God – Dan 2:21-22 Revelation 7:6; 14:9

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**Created Equal and Diverse**

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