

NORTHSIDE BULLETIN

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Sick

Shut-ins and Elderly Members:

- Sis. Darnell
- Sis. Burns
- Sis. Sharp
- Sis. Higgenbottom
- Bro. And Sis. Wade

Those Battling Health Issues

- Carl Hollis Jr
- The Wheelers

Family of Members

- J.W. Doyle's sister
- Amy Branscum's brother
- Phyllis Hale's brother
- Shirley Meade's niece

Other Announcements

Remember the Branscum family in the loss of Mary's brother this past week

The Carswell family in the birth of Harold Benjamin Carswell this past week

The Image of God

By Mike Webb

“Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” ²⁷ So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them” (Gen.1:26-27).

In these verses, we read concerning the creation of man by God. Man was different from every other creature made by God because he was made in God's image. Let us explore what it means to be made in the image of God.

Not A Reference to Man's Physical Appearance

When Jesus appeared to his disciples after his resurrection they thought at first that he might be a spirit. Jesus pointed to his physical body to show that he was not a spirit. He said, “Behold my hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have” (Luke 24:35-39). God is identified by Jesus as a spirit in John 4:24. If God is a spirit and a spirit does not have a physical body then God does not have a physical body. Therefore, we conclude that being made in God's image is not about our physical appearance.

Not A Description of Man's Original Righteousness

Some have suggested that being made in God's image was a reference to man before the fall of Gen.3. We were only, therefore, in God's image before we sinned. This, however, does not fit with the Biblical use of this phrase. After Noah exited the ark, God instituted the death penalty for taking another man's life. The reason given was “for in the image of God He made man.” This was after the fall and after God had destroyed the world for its wickedness. Furthermore, the principle of Gen.9:6 would apply to all men whether they are good or bad.

James also appealed to man being in God's likeness or similitude as a reason for not cursing our fellowman (James 3:9). This is obviously not a reference to man's state before sin entered the

Daily Bible Readings for This Week

- Jan.8 - Gen.16-18; Mark 6
- Jan.9 - Gen.19-20; Psalm 1; Mark 7
- Jan.10 - Gen.21-23; Psa. 107; Mark 8
- Jan.11 - Gen.24-25; Psa.4; Mark 9
- Jan.12 - Gen.26-27; Mark 10

Times of Classes and Worship

- Sunday Bible Study: 9:00 am
- Sunday Worship: 10:00 am and 5:00 pm
- Tuesday Morning Class: 10:00 am
- Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm
- Ladies Bible Class - 6:30 pm on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month

Special Services 2019

- Spring Meeting With J.R. Bronger - April 21-26
- Fall Lectureship: (Mark White, John Gibson, David Thomley) - October 25-27th

world.

Man is A Spiritual Being With An Eternal Soul

Man, unlike the animals, consists of more than a physical body. He also consists of a soul that is eternal. Paul identified man as consisting of three parts in 1 Thess.4:23. He wrote, "Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." Man has a physical body with physical life but he also has a spirit that makes him in God's image. This spirit does not die but will return to God when the physical body dies (Ecc. 12:6-7; James 2:26). Man is in God's image because he is a spiritual being with an eternal soul.

Implications of Man Being in God's Image

1). Human life is different than animal life. Many people equate the taking of an animal's life with the taking of human life. In fact, some put more value on animal life. They are different because an animal does not bear a soul made in God's image. God gave man dominion over the animals and instructed man to use them for food (Gen.9:2-3; 1 Tim.4:3-5). In fact through the Old Testament God commanded animals to be killed as sacrifices. God obviously sees a difference in the life of an animal and the life of a human being.

2). Man's life has value. Every human life, whether good or bad, has value because they bear the image of God. If a man's life is taken then the man that took his life should be executed because he murdered someone made in the image of God (Gen.9:6). They have an eternal soul that Christ died to redeem and will live eternally either in heaven or hell.

3). We should be careful how we treat our fellowman. Man is not to be treated like an animal or someone with no value. We should not curse or wish ill of our fellowman because they bear God's likeness (James 3:9).

We are made in God's image because we have a soul. We should also try to reflect God's character in our life by seeking to do his will in our life (Eph.4:24; Col.3:10-11).

Voices from the Past

"I'd rather have thousands say to me in the judgment, "We heard you preach and you hurt our feelings," than to have just one soul say, 'I heard you preach, but you did not tell me the truth" - John T. Lewis