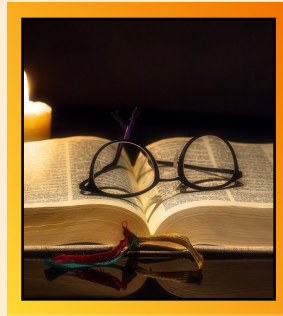




CONVERSATIONS IN BIBLE FUNDAMENTALS

“And there were certain Greeks among them that came up to worship at the feast: The same came therefore to Philip . . . saying, Sir, we would see Jesus.” John 12: 20, 21



“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” Colossians 3:16

§ - Related Bible Passages:

- *Genesis 1:26. Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”*
- *Psalm 8: You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet: all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild, the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.*
- *Ephesians 4:23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.*



Today’s Conversation: - Pastor Brenda Billingy

§ - What does it mean to be “created in the image of God”?

Foundation Text: Genesis 1: 26, 27. *Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over . . . all the creatures that move along the ground.” . . . male and female he created them.*

“Image” in Hebrew- “TSELEM” - resemblance, a representative figure. The Hebrew text: “God made man in such a way to reflect some of his own perfections. He was perfect in knowledge, righteousness, holiness, with dominion over the creatures. Perhaps even the loving unity within the Godhead is reflected in mankind.”

Man is tarnished by sin but though imprecisely, he still represents the original essential nature of God— Psalms 39:6 we are “like a shadow”.

“Likeness”—“DEMUWTH”— similitude, pattern, shape, similarities. “Image” and “likeness” tell us there's something about us that resembles God.

§ - Difference:

- John 4:24 - God is a spirit- PNEUMA— “like the wind he's invisible immaterial and powerful.”

§ - In Conclusion:

- 1) We resemble - We don't have all of the minute details but have some physical similarities;
- 2) We represent his nature - We should have the same moral image, the same character- caring, patience, etc.;
- 3) We rule - man was given the special honor to be steward of this environment in which we live.
- 4) We are relational - We are built for relationships.



§ - Next Week's Conversation Question:

- "How should we understand parables in the Scriptures? What role do they play in our spiritual experience?"

- Guest Presenter: Pastor Daniel Thomas



In the Image of God (continued)

§ - Similarities:

Form:

- Exodus 33: 17 - 23. To Moses God said, "you will see my back; but my face must not be seen." Numbers 12: 8. Speaking of Moss, "he sees the form of the Lord."
- Numbers 12: 6-8. "I, the Lord, reveal myself to them in visions, I speak to them in dreams."
- Ezekiel 1: 26-28. "high above on the throne was a figure like that of a man. . . ." No real details but certainly an appearance of God.
- Isaiah 6: 1-6. "I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne . . ." God as a person, He is divine and we human, but there is something about him that connects with us.

God and Jesus Look Alike:

- John 14:9. - Jesus said, "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. "
- Colossians 1:15. "The Son is the image of the invisible God."
- Hebrews 1: 3. "The Son is the radiance of God's glory . . ." (NASV -"of his nature").

God's Similarity of Nature, Character:

- Exodus 34: 6. "The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious . . ."
- Ephesians 4: 24 - "and to put on the new self, created to be like God . . ."

We Have Dominion:

- Genesis 1: 26. " . . . so that they may rule over . . .all the creatures that move along the ground." We are created to have dominion over the over the works of His hands even as He has dominion over the world.

Community Living:

- Genesis 2: 18 *The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."* Trinity Father - God; Son -Jesus, and the Holy Spirit is a love relationship. We are also created for fellowship and friendship with one another

