

Created in God's Image

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:4-25

NLAC 7.13.08 hfd

1. (1:26-27) Human beings (male and female) have been made in the image of God. God is a relational, purposeful person who thinks, chooses and feels. We are relational, purposeful persons who think choose and feel. We have been uniquely created by God for God – to have a relationship with God, to love God, to enjoy God, to delight in God, to worship God, and to serve God.

The Rest of the Story: Man rebelled (Genesis 3), but Jesus Christ (the God-man) came to earth (lived to earn righteousness for man and died to pay for man's sins) to reconcile sinful man to God. Through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ we are brought back into a right relationship with God.

2. (1:26, 28) We were made by God to subdue and to rule over (domesticate, build, etc.) the earth for Him (for his glory). Humans are not just quantitatively higher than the other mammals, but also qualitatively higher. Humans are the only "animals" made in God's image. Human beings are unique and set apart for a special relationship with God and to rule over the animals and planet earth for God.

3. (1:28) We were designed to procreate – to have families (Note: Males and females have distinctive roles and different responsibilities when it comes to marriage and family.).

4. (2:9) The Edenic paradise and the rest of the planet was made for man's enjoyment; Food was made to look and taste good, and God designed man to enjoy and appreciate all that God created for him to His praise and glory.

5. (2:15) God designed us for work – to live responsibly and take care of His creation. We were created as purposeful persons who, in part, fulfill our purpose through work.

6. (2:16-17) God gave us great freedom, but also gave us some restrictions (for our own good). Freedom is never absolute. True freedom is always linked with responsibilities.

7. (2:18-25) God designed men and women to marry and to remain married for a lifetime.

Psalm 8

Ps 8:1 O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

Ps 8:2 From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.

Ps 8:3 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

Ps 8:4 what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?

Ps 8:5 You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

Ps 8:6 You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet:

Ps 8:7 all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field,

Ps 8:8 the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

Ps 8:9 O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!