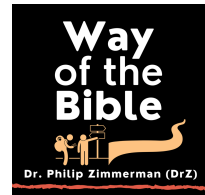


SHOWNOTES

Episode #011 – Mankind | Image & Likeness of God



John 4:24 God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in Truth.

Genesis 1:26-27 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.” 27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God created man [Adam] from the dust of the earth. To provide a helper for Adam, God created from Adam [from one of Adam’s ribs] woman [Eve]. It is super important to understand intellectually and spiritually this relationship. Everyone [men and women] are all descendants of the original one man [Adam]. The beginning of the human race of “descendants” were all born of Eve. All humanity since has been born into the world through women.

So what does it mean to be created in God’s Image and Likeness?

Three-Fold Nature of Man

Deuteronomy 6:4-5 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. 5 Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Luke 10:25-28 On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” 26 “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?” 27 He answered, “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’ ; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ” 28 “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”

1 Thessalonians 5:23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Body & Spirit Bookends of Mankind

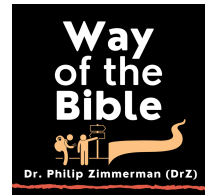
Body (Physical) & Spirit (Metaphysical) are bookends of mankind. Inside of mankind are other metaphysical elements of mind, soul, heart, and strength. We’re not going to get into all that this entails in this episode as there is a lot of theology involved. We’re going to keep it simple.

Imagine your body as a vessel with gates of physical sensation of the created order – Sight, Hearing, Touch, Taste, and Smell (five senses). These physical sensations pass through metaphysical gates in both your mind and soul as Imagination, Conscience, Memory, Reason, and Affections. Responses to stimulation of mind and soul are assimilated, integrated, and synthesized in your heart.

Just as your physical body houses and provides inputs to your inner self through sense gates, your heart (mind/soul) acts as the spirit body of your spirit which comes from God. Ecclesiastes 12:6-7 Remember him [your Creator]—before the silver cord is severed, and the golden bowl is broken; before the pitcher is shattered at the spring, and the wheel broken at the well, and the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.

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Access to the spirit which God gave is inside your heart through another gate called “the will” gate. The spirit is responsible for your connection with God through sense faculties such as Faith, Hope, Reverence, Prayer, Worship, and Spiritual Insight. It is through the spirit we connect and come into union with God who is Spirit.

When Adam was first created, the gate between his heart and spirit was open by and in “the will” of God. Adam was in constant communion and fellowship with God and “knew” God by the synthesis of his spirit and God’s Spirit.

When Adam chose his own will (I can and will eat the fruit) over the will of God (Do not eat the fruit) and Adam ate the fruit – Adam’s will displaced God’s will as the hearts gatekeeper to the spirit – and blocked the gate of the heart to the spirit.

The consequence was immediate. Spiritual insight and communion with God was cut off. Now spiritually dead – cut off from God who is Spirit, guilt and shame entered Adam and Eve and they hid from God. The history of mankind since, separated from God, is a catastrophic train wreck ending in death for everyone.

Invictus

William Ernest Henley - 1849-1903

Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the Pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.

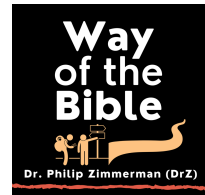
In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the Horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds, and shall find, me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll,
I am the master of my fate:
I am the captain of my soul.

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Let's take a different look at what does it mean to be human, to be created in the Image and Likeness of God. This time from the End to the Beginning!

Isaiah 46:10 I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.'

From the very beginning before God ever created anything he sees the eternal state inhabited by his creation in union and fellowship with himself. That creation includes a heaven and an earth on which creatures made in his image and likeness dwell together. The creatures were human. From the very beginning, God designed a human "body" for himself to occupy and an environment where his "body" and other created human beings would dwell in union into eternity. So let's take a look at the perfect human and how we can be like him!

Luke 1:26-38 Mary is told by the Angel Gabriel that she will birth a son and call him Jesus. When Mary asked how, Gabriel told her "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. And so the God man – Jesus – was conceived and born. Not a descendant of Adam, but the Son of God.

The heart gate to the spirit in Jesus was open to his Father. Communion with his Father as he was growing up was continual.

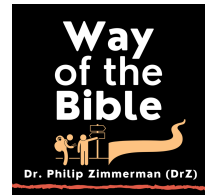
Luke 2:46-52 When Jesus was twelve, he and his family went to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. While the family headed home, Jesus stayed behind without his parents notice. Once they realized he wasn't with them, they headed back and searched for him for three days. And upon finding him were pretty upset and scolded him for staying behind. Jesus told them, 49 "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" 50 But they did not understand what he was saying to them. 51 Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. 52 And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

Luke 3:21-23 When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened 22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." 23 Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry.

John 14:5-14 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" 6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7 If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." 8 Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us." 9 Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? 10 Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. 11 Believe me when I say that I am in the Father

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and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. 12 Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. 13 And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Image and Likeness of God

Colossians 1:15 The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

2 Corinthians 4:4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Romans 8:29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

1 John 3:2 Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Hebrews 2:11-15 Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. 12 He says, “I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises.” 13 And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again he says, “Here am I, and the children God has given me.” 14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— 15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

1 Peter 1:23-25 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. 24 For, “All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, 25 but the word of the Lord endures forever.” And this is the word that was preached to you.

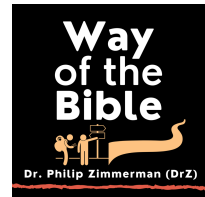
Deuteronomy 30:6 The LORD your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live.

Romans 2:28-29 A person is not a Jew who is one only outwardly, nor is circumcision merely outward and physical. 29 No, a person is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a person’s praise is not from other people, but from God.

What does it mean to be created in the Image and Likeness of God. The opportunity for entrance into God’s eternal family and freedom to worship God in the Spirit [Holy Spirit] and in Truth [in Jesus]. John 14:6 “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

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Next episode (#011) we'll look at what it means to be human; created in the image and likeness of God. This next episode will complete our initial podcast framework from which to jump into the big picture of the Bible.

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- Joyful always, Praying Continually, and Thankful in all circumstances

Be blessed my brothers and sisters