

## THE BOOK OF BEGINNINGS

*"The writer of Genesis 1 portrays God as king presiding over "heaven and earth," an ordered and harmonious realm in which each creature manifests the will of the creator and is thus declared "good." Humanity is created like this God, with a special role of representing and imaging God's rule in the world."*  
 —J. R. Middleton, *The Liberating Image: The Imago Dei in Genesis 1*

**"God & Mankind"****The Creation of Mankind:**

- Two accounts :

1:26-31 – The Creation of Humanity in General

2:5-25 – The Specific Creation of Adam & Eve

**Mankind's Unique Place in Creation: Genesis 1:26-31****1. Mankind is made in God's \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_**

- "Image" – [selem] – 'Something cut from an object'
- "Likeness" – [demut] – This term is used to help explain the idea of image.

*"Likeness is an assurance that man is an adequate and faithful representative of God on earth. The whole man is the image of God, without distinction of spirit and body. All mankind, without distinction, are the image of God."* – David J. A. Clines, *The Image of God in Man*

How we are like God:

**2. Mankind images God by \_\_\_\_\_ over the rest of creation.**

*"...and let them have dominion..."*

⇒ This shows mankind's privileged position in the created order.

- There was a position of \_\_\_\_\_ authority.

### 3. Mankind is to expand the worship of God by \_\_\_\_\_ creation with more worshippers.

- The first words that God speaks to them are a blessing

*"Be fruitful and multiply..."*

→ God intends sex to be contextual, purposeful, and worshipful.

- God provided abundantly for their needs

### Hope in an increasingly formless and empty world:

- The rebellion of mankind in Genesis 3 meant that instead of multiplying worshippers of God, they multiplied those who were sinners both by nature and choice.
- The failure of our first parents meant that our only hope would be someone who could succeed where they had failed.

#### Hebrews 2:1-11

5 For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. 6 It has been testified somewhere, "What is man, that you are mindful of him, or the son of man, that you care for him? 7 You made him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned him with glory and honor, 8 putting everything in subjection under his feet."

Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. 9 But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

10 For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. 11 For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers

- ⇒ The writer to the Hebrews is attempting to encourage his readers with the reality that the ascended Christ has triumphed and is ruling over all things presently, even if this does not seem to be the case.
- ⇒ He accomplishes this by quoting from Ps. 8, a psalm which recalls the original creation account and yet also seems to anticipate a future time when the Lord's name is majestic in all the earth.

*"...the son of man..."*

- "ben Adam" [Hebrew] – "Son of Adam"

#### Daniel 7:13-14

13 "I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. 14 And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

- "huios anthropos" [Greek]

#### Matthew 26:63b-65

And the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." 64 Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." 65 Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy.