

God Creates Humanity in His Image

Genesis 1:26-2:25

Read Genesis 1:26-31.

God created people in His image on day six.

- Was anything else created in the image of God? (1:1-25)
- What happens when people ignore God's purpose for creating them in His image?

Principle: God created people in His image.

Read Genesis 2:1-3.

God established the Sabbath on day seven.

- Describe the characteristics of the seventh day. (2:2-3)
- What makes God's kind of resting hard or easy to do?

Principle: God created people to know Him.

Read Genesis 2:4-25.

God enjoyed relationship with Adam and Eve.

- List details about God's creation of Adam and Eve.
- Share insights about God's personal creation of Adam and Eve that make you grateful to Him.

Principle: God created people to love Him.

Review Genesis 1:26-2:25.

- What is challenging about knowing you are created in God's image?

Main truth: God's image in us gives every person worth and purpose.

Scripture Memory Verse

"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.' " –
Genesis 1:26

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Exploring the Christian Faith

An Attribute of God

from this week's passage

Creator

There was never a time when God did not exist. Before there was anything at all, even time, God existed. No one made God. God made everything, from the tiniest subatomic particle to the farthest galaxy in the universe. Everything comes from God – what we can see and what we cannot see – heaven, angels and the whole spiritual realm. He spoke, and all these things came into existence. God alone is able to bring something out of nothing.

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A Basic Truth of the Christian Faith

What is Creation?

Creation is God making everything out of nothing by His powerful Word.¹ He created man and woman in His own image to know and love Him and to live with Him forever. God created them righteous and holy, to rule over everything He created.² Because God made everything good,³ there was no sickness, death or decay and no reason to fear or be ashamed.⁴

Genesis 1:1; John 1:1-3¹; Genesis 1:26-27²; Genesis 1:31³; Genesis 2:25⁴

Think About It

Did the world not just evolve?

The world could not have evolved by chance. The order and beauty evident in this world reveal a Creator, even to those who have never heard the gospel (Romans 1:20). All the elements in the chemistry lab cannot be combined to produce a tree, a one-cell amoeba or much less a living, thinking human being. Nothing “caused” God, for He alone is eternal. Everything else in the physical and spiritual realms finds its source in God. We would know very little, if anything, if God did not reveal it to us in His Word. God gave us the Bible to tell us why the world was made and how we can personally know the One who made the world. The Bible is not a science textbook, yet nothing in it contradicts science. The Bible is strong enough to stand up to our questions.

Are human beings just another type of animal, descended from apes?

God created human beings uniquely in His image. Mankind’s purpose is different and higher than apes. Because all people are made in God’s image, even a person who is sick and unable to think or even move has an infinitely greater value than the most useful animal. A chimpanzee taught to use sign language cannot have fellowship with God. Some animals are smart, but they were not made to rule over creation. God made DNA so there are similarities in all living creatures. That does not mean that people are descended from animals. Giraffes and wolves are not descended from cats, although they have DNA of similar structure.

Did everyone descend from Adam and Eve?

All humanity is one. There is one human race although people are different from one another. Some have blonde hair, curly hair, straight hair, etc. God certainly is able to have made the first man and woman having the genetic material for every person throughout every age. God has the ability to have created Adam and Eve with every genetic trait necessary to be passed down to humankind.

To learn more Basic Truths of the Christian Faith, visit mybsf.org.