

IN

GOD'S

IMAGE

AND THE
IMPORTANCE OF
THE RESURRECTION

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**LITERATURE FROM
CHRISTIAN BIBLE PRESS**

**3194 Spencer Dr.
Geneva, Ohio 44041**

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**PUBLISHED BY
CHRISTIAN BIBLE PRESS**

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THE ETERNAL TRINITY

Genesis 1:26a,27 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness;.....

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him, male and female created he them.

Everyone looks in a mirror. Some look in a mirror to comb their hair. If they are lucky enough to have hair.

Others look in a mirror to brush their teeth. If they are lucky enough to have teeth.

Others tie their tie, put on makeup, check for new wrinkles, or facial hair.

Some are so puffed up they think they are looking at a god.

What is the meaning of created in His image? Since no two people are identical, it cannot mean we all look like God.

What does God look like? Jesus said, "No man hath seen God at any time."

He also said.....

"And the Father himself, who hath sent me, hath born witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape." (John 1:18 5:37)

Jesus also said.....

John 4:24 God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

We all know a Spirit cannot be seen, and Christ said no man hath seen God, so how do we know what God looks like?

Many people claim that in His image means we think and act like God.

That cannot be true because the Bible states that man is a sinner and falls short of the glory of God. (Psalm 32:1-5 51:1-5 53:1-4 Romans 3:10,23)

No we do not think like God!!

Still others claim that in His image means we are all God's children. But that is not true because Christ told the religious leaders of His day they were children of Satan, the old Devil. (John 8:44)

WHO IS GOD?

God is an eternal trinity. He is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

When Jesus was baptized by John a voice was heard from heaven, (the Father) and said, "This is my beloved Son", (Jesus Christ, the Son) and the Holy Spirit came on Him. (the Holy Spirit)

Therefore, the trinity. (Matthew 3:16,17 Mark 1:10,11 Luke 3:22)

Matthew 28:19 Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

God is a trinity. But why? Because no man has, or can, see God, yet, He must be seen.

Therefore, Jesus Christ the Son, has made God visible.

Throughout eternity Jesus Christ existed with the Father and the Spirit. (John 8:58 17:5 Revelation 1:8,17 13:8 22:13)

It was Christ who walked in the garden calling out to Adam. (Genesis 3:8-13)

It was the eternal Christ who communed with Noah, Abraham, Moses, and all the Old Testament saints.

Colossians 2:9 For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the godhead bodily.

Jesus Christ the Lord took on flesh and blood like humanity in order to reveal God, and die on a cross for the sins of mankind.

Colossians 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the first born of every creature.

Jesus Christ the Lord is the manifestation of the trinity in human flesh. (John 1:18 1 Timothy 3:16)

He gave up His glorified body in order to take on a physical body, live for thirty three years. And die for the sins of mankind. (1 Timothy 1:15)

The only way for anyone to see God is to look upon Jesus Christ.

GOD'S LOVE SEEN THROUGH JESUS CHRIST

Genesis 1:26a,27 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness:

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him, male and female created he them.

God created man in His image, an eternal trinity.

Adam and Eve were created an eternal trinity.

They could have lived forever in the garden.

However, a problem arose. Adam disobeyed the direct command of God. He told Adam not eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge. If he ate the fruit of that tree he would die. (Genesis 2:15-17)

Satan beguiled Eve and she ate the fruit. Then Eve enticed Adam and he ate the fruit. (Genesis 3:1-6)

Adam disobeyed God and he died spiritually, and began to die physically. Dying is a process.

The sin of Adam was transferred to all humanity. (Romans 3:10-23 5:12-14 1 Corinthians 15:20-22)

1 Thessalonians 5:23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Here's the dilemma! We are still an eternal trinity, but we are dead spiritually and we will all die physically.

We are a body, soul, and spirit, but what happens when I die? The body decays, or is destroyed in one way or another; so what about my eternal trinity?

Do we cease to exist as some people seem to think? Do we come back in another life as others seem to think? (all without proof by the way)

God had a plan. He has provided a way for all mankind to be an eternal trinity.

He is the "Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." (Revelation 13:8b)

WHY A TRINITY?

Before we go any further, we need to understand why God created man an eternal trinity in His image.

The answer should be obvious. Our physical body reveals who we are. Without it no one could see us in the realm we live in.

If we look in a mirror we see what everyone else sees. Us!!

We see our emotions. Love, anger, pain, fear, joy, and everything we are feeling, hearing, and seeing.

We hug our children and hold them when they are ill. We work with our hands, walk with our feet, and etc.

God expressed His love through Jesus Christ when he died for us and shed His blood for us.

1 John 1:1,2 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life.

For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and show unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us.

Jesus Christ, who is “the fullness of the Godhead bodily,” was manifested, seen, handled, and heard, was the body part of the eternal trinity.

Humanity in the flesh is the bodily part of the trinity of man; seen, heard, and handled.

Yet, because of sin the body must die.

PART TWO THE IMPORTANCE OF A RESURRECTION

THE GOSPEL

1 Corinthians 15:1-4 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and in which ye stand;

By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

This is the plan of God, the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. He would die, be buried, and rise again for the forgiveness of sin.

The word gospel means a good news message. Part of the gospel is that Christ rose again in three days. He died, was buried, and rose again for the forgiveness of sin.

The word resurrection is used 41 times in the New Testament. The words rise, rose, raise, and raised, used in connection with the resurrection of Christ is used roughly 39 times in the New Testament.

Therefore, the resurrection is one of the most important doctrines in the Bible.

It is important because God created man in His image. He created man an eternal trinity. He wants His creation to remain an eternal trinity.

John 5:28,29 Marvel not at this; for the hour is coming, in which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,

And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

(ref. also Daniel 12:1,2 Acts 24:15)

Everyone. Those who have done good, are those who hear and believe the gospel. Those who have done evil are those who reject the gospel. The saved and the lost will hear His voice and come forth and receive a resurrected body.

Long before Christ created, He determined He would die, be buried, and rise again, for humanity He created.

THE ORDER OF THE RESURRECTION

Part of the plan of God is the order of the resurrection. Everyone without exception will take part in a resurrection.

Before Jesus Christ went to the cross there was no resurrection from the dead.

Everyone who died went to a place called Sheol in the Old Testament, and Hades in the New Testament.

Everyone, without exception, left their earthly, sinful, bodies behind and went to Hades.

Hades had two compartments. One was called torment and the other was called Paradise. (Luke 16:19-31)

Those who looked for their Savior went to the Paradise side of Sheol/Hades, those who did not went to the torment side of Hades.

When Jesus Christ gave up the Ghost, He went to Paradise. (Luke 23:43)

THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

The first order of the resurrection was the resurrection of Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:20-23 But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that slept.

For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive;

But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

Every man in his own order.

THE ORDER OF THE RESURRECTION

Jesus Christ was the first in the order of the resurrection. When He rose from the dead many Old Testament saints also rose from the dead. (Matthew 28:51,52)

This was to prove that the resurrection was real and from God.

Jesus Christ the Lord was the first fruits of the resurrection.

The next in the order of a resurrection will be the church. This will take place at the end of the church age when Christ gathers His church together. (1 Corinthians 15:51,52 Ephesians 1:3-14 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 2 Thessalonians 2:1)

Then, in the middle of the seven year tribulation the two witnesses will receive a resurrection. (Revelation 11:3-13)

Next in the order of the resurrection will be the Old Testament saints who have not yet received a resurrection, and those who were martyred during the seven year tribulation.

All of these will go into the kingdom to reign with Christ. (Ezekiel 36 & 37 Revelation 20:4-6)

NOTE: The kingdom will begin with resurrected saints and those who come out of the tribulation with their physical bodies.

They will need to enter eternity with new bodies.

Then will the resurrection of the just, the saved, be complete.

Revelation 20:5,6 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection; on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

Blessed and holy is he that has part in the first resurrection.

The first resurrection is reserved for the saved only. Each part and order of the first resurrection is for those who have trusted Christ as their Savior.

THE SECOND DEATH

The second resurrection is called the second death and is reserved for those who reject the gospel of Christ.

At the end of the 1000 year reign of Christ, He will sit on a 'great white throne,' and judge the lost.

This is recorded in Revelation 20:11-15. All of those who are dead and have trusted in false religion, or nothing at all, will be judged lost and receive their resurrected bodies.

However, they will enter into eternity a trinity, but it will be eternal torment in the lake of fire.

John 3:18 He that believeth on him is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (ref. Psalm 7:8-16)

Jesus Christ the Lord went to a lot of trouble, pain, and agony to provide a resurrection for humanity.

All humanity will again be eternal.

Some will take part in the first resurrection and be an eternal trinity with Christ, in peace, and joy.

Others will be an eternal trinity in torment.

Yet everyone from the beginning to the end will be once again in the image of God.

God is a Body, Soul, and Spirit, and He is eternal.

Man will be a body, soul, and spirit, and he will also be eternal.

NOTE: All the Old Testament saints were aware of a resurrected body and eternity. They were also aware of a coming Savior. (see Job 19:23-29)

DEFINITION OF O.T. WORDS

Genesis 1:26,27 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

There are five Hebrew words used in this portion of Scripture that we must understand. They are

God = Elohiym = the plural of God; the plurality of one. (us and our)

Image = tselem = to shadow; phantom; resemblance; a representative figure

Likeness = demuwth = resemblance; model; shape; fashion

Create = bara = create; select; choose; (to create something that never existed before)

Make or made = asah = accomplish; bear; bring forth; become; (to bring into existence something that previously existed)

Verse 27 states that, “ God created man in his own image.”

God created (bara) man in His own image. Man; something that never existed before.

God made (asah) man in His own image, after His likeness. Man became a trinity; something that had existed before; a trinity.

In other words, God always existed as a trinity. Now He created man, and made him after His likeness.

Colossians 1:12 16 Giving thanks unto the Father, who hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light;

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son;

In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins;

*Who is the image of the invisible God, the first born of every creature; (all creation)
For by him were all things created... ..*

God is an eternal trinity. He is God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit.

The Father and the Spirit are invisible to you and I. However, God the Son is the image of the invisible God.

He makes God visible and seen. (John 1:1,2,10,14,18 2 Corinthians 4:4 1 Timothy 3:16 Colossians 1:15 2:9 Hebrews 1:3)

God created man in His image; an eternal trinity.

Then He died, was buried, and rose again for our sins.

No, we do not think and act like God. We are sinful by nature, yet, we are eternal.

Jesus Christ the Lord reveals the Father and the Holy Spirit.

He is God made seen. He reveals the love of God by His death, burial, and resurrection.

He has provided a way for man to live with Him for eternity in a resurrected body and once again be an eternal trinity like God.

All we are required to do is have faith in Christ as the one who paid for our sin.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 6:47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.