

IN THE BEGINNING... Made in His Image Genesis 1:1-2:3

Lead Pastor, Dr. Jonathan Griffiths Sunday, March 5, 2017

Then 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 birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." (Genesis 1:26-28 NIV)

- According to Genesis 1-2, God made man in His own image and likeness (Gen. 1:26-27), formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life (Gen. 2:7). How does this creative act differ from the others described in Genesis 1 and what implications are there for the relationship between God and man?
- 2. How do Genesis 1:1-2, John 1:1-3 and Colossians 1:15-16 relate to Genesis 1:26 where God says "Let us make man..."?
- 3. Many people today believe human beings are just another animal developed by evolution? What challenges are there to this view in the Genesis account of creation?
- 4. In an evolutionary or godless perspective, death is viewed as the final end of an individual's life. Our Christian viewpoint anticipates that all human beings will be resurrected and continue to survive in either heaven or hell. How do the eternal outcomes of these two very opposite views differ?
- 5. If God has installed value into human beings by personally and carefully creating us in His image, and Christ has added to that by dying for each individual, what does that say about some of our society's popular current views on the unborn child, human gender, the mentally challenged, the sick and the elderly? Did Pastor Jonathan's sermon challenge any of your own views or behaviours?
- 6. As God's image bearers, we have been given authority to rule the earth (Gen. 1:26,28). What privileges and responsibilities go with the authority that God has granted us?