

**“Disciples of Jesus ... We need to GROW UP!”**



**Part 8: “Made in God’s Image ... the uniqueness of mankind”**

**Genesis 1-2; Ephesians 4:23-24;  
II Corinthians 5:17**

Introduction: “In the beginning, God ... “ - **Genesis 1:1**

**Genesis 1:26:** “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.”

**Made in the image of God means that disciples of Jesus desire to be like Christ!**

**I. The Image of God Created ...**

God did not NEED to create mankind ... but He had a purpose in doing so.

**Isaiah 43:7:** “Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

**John 4:24:** “God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.”

God created you to be able to bear His likeness, to display His likeness, to actually BE like Him!

Created to be LIKE God, however, mankind sinned and the result was ...

**II. The Image of God Lost ...**

Man sinned and EVIL entered into the world and into his heart and mind!

**Romans 3:9-12:** “... as it is written: ‘None is righteous, no not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God” (vss. 10-11).

**Romans 8:7-8:** “For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot ...” (vs. 7).

Apart from Christ we would never consider God or give Him glory.

Through the power of Jesus Christ and the work of His Spirit in those who are born again, God begins His work in believers ...

**III. The Image of God Restored ...**

Jesus Christ came to redeem us, to restore God’s image in us!

**Matthew 5:16:** “Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

As a disciple of Christ, you are an image - bearer of God as you live in this world.

**II Corinthians 5:17:** “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.”

The more you grow in Christ, the closer you draw near to Him, the more your sin bothers you because it contradicts the likeness of God that is being restored IN you.

We need oneness with God to be restored in us if we are to grow in Christ.

**John 17:21-23:** “... that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that You have sent me ... that they may be one, even as we are one ...” (vss. 21-22).

Through Christ you have been made FREE to worship and to give God glory!

How do believers bring glory to God as we live in this world?

**Matthew 6:33:** “Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness ...”

**I Corinthians 11:1:** “Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.”

**Psalms 8:3-4:** “When I look at your heavens ... what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?”

God’s promise: “Beloved, we are God’s children now ... but we know that when He appears we shall be LIKE HIM !!” (I John 3:2).

**“In Christ, I am \_\_\_\_\_!”**