

We Are The Living Image Of God

'God said, "Let Us make mankind in Our image, after Our likeness" ... so God created man in His own image, in the image and likeness of God, He created him; male and female He created them' (Genesis 1:26 & 27). That was God the Father speaking to Jesus the Son and to the Holy Spirit. 'Then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into His nostrils the breath or spirit of life, and man became a living soul' (Genesis 2:7).

People, humans, mankind, homosapiens, mammals and anything else we may call ourselves, were made in the image of God, in His form or shape, and with the exact same emotions. As we might say of a child, "He is the living image of his father" so we are also, the absolute living image of our Father in every way. When God created the world, universe and everything in between, He saw that it was good. The only thing that was not good was; Adam was alone. 'Now the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helper meet for him"' (Genesis 2:18). Some translations say Eve was a helper, suitable for Adam. 'And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and while he slept, God took one of Adam's ribs and closed up the flesh. The rib which the Lord God had taken from the man, He built up and made into the woman and He brought her to the man. Then Adam said, "This creature is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman because she was taken out of a man" (Genesis 2:21 to 23).

At first, Adam was simply referred to as 'the man'. 'And the Lord God took 'the man' and put him in the Garden of Eden to tend the garden' (Genesis 2:15). 'And the Lord God commanded 'the man'... etc (Genesis 2:16). 'It is not good that 'the man' should be alone' (Genesis 2:18). The first reference of Adam by name was shortly before Eve was created; 'And out of the ground the Lord formed every beast and living creature of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them, and whatever Adam called every living creature, that was it's name' (Genesis 2:19). Was Adam named by the Lord or did he name himself? 'He (God) created them male and female and blessed them and named them both Adam at the time they were created' (Genesis 5:2). The name Adam means Man. 'Adam named his wife Eve because she was the mother of all the living'. (Genesis 3:20). Eve means 'life spring'. Like Adam, Eve was initially known simply as 'the woman' and was not named Eve until after the fall of man. 'And 'the woman' said...etc (Genesis 3:2). 'And when 'the woman' saw the fruit...etc (Genesis 3:6). 'And Adam said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me"...etc (Genesis 3:12). 'And the Lord God said to 'the woman'...etc (Genesis 3:13). Since Eve was taken out of Adam's side, she too would be the exact image of God.

We will look at some scriptures that show us the Lord God has arms, legs, hands etc, just like we do, or should we say, we have arms and legs just like our Father does. We need to understand that the Lord is not a shapeless 'blob'. He is the visual form of a human. If He was a 'blob', and we were created in His image, we too would be shapeless 'blobs'. One obvious way to see God in human form is to look at Jesus. He was a human-shaped man in every way, except He was born without the sin nature we are born with. That is why He had no sin. We are born with a sinful nature; Jesus was born pure, holy and sinless. The Lord God the Father has eyes, ears, a head, a face, mouth, lips, nostrils and He breathes. He has arms, hands, legs, feet, a heart and He sits. God vomits or spits, laughs, forgets, remembers, can be grieved, gets angry, loves, hates, becomes weary, can be burdened and He has a soul.

There are a few differences though; unlike us, God is holy, perfect, unblemished and pure. Unlike us, He is a Spirit; we are flesh and blood. Unlike us, He had no beginning. Unlike us, He will never have a resurrected body because God the Father has never died nor will He ever die. It is Jesus who died and has a resurrected body like we will have; one day. There are literally hundreds of scriptures that speak of the 'human like' quality of God, attributes that He has that He created in us. We have selected just a few scriptures that show how we humans really were created in the image and likeness of God the Father.

God has a head: 'Therefore He will lift up His head triumphantly' (Psalm 110:7). 'Ephraim is My Helmet' (author's note: in order to wear a helmet, we first need a head) (Psalm 60:7).

God has eyes and He sees: 'The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous' (1 Peter 3:12). 'The eyes of the Lord are in every place (Proverbs 15:3). 'His eyes see and examine the children of men' (Psalm 11:4). 'I will hide My eyes from you' (Isaiah 1:15).

God has ears and He hears: 'His ears are attentive to their prayer' (1 Peter 3:12). 'O Lord, You have heard the desire of the humble...You will cause Your ear to hear (Psalm 10:17).

God has a face: 'The face of the Lord is against evildoers' (1 Peter 3:12).

God has a mouth and lips, He spits, He laughs, He whistles and He drinks: 'For the mouth of the Lord has spoken it (Isaiah 1:20). 'I will spew (spit) you out of My mouth' (Revelation 3:16). 'And in that day the Lord shall whistle for the fly' (Isaiah 7:18). 'O that God would speak and open His lips against you' (Job 11:5). 'He Who sits in the heavens laughs' (Psalms 2:4). 'He will drink of the brook by the way' (Psalm 110:7).

God breathes: 'The Lord God breathed into Adam the breath of life' (Genesis 2:7).

God has a nose and nostrils: 'With a blast of Your nostrils the waters piled up' (author's note: in order to have nostrils, God must also have a nose) (Exodus 15:8).

God has arms, hands and fingers: 'The Lord has made bare His Holy arm' (Isaiah 52:10). 'To whom has the arm of the Lord been disclosed?' (Isaiah 53:1). 'Sit at My right hand' (Psalms 110:1). 'Stretch forth Your hand' (Psalm 144:7). 'The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord' (Proverbs 21:1). The Lord God wrote the Ten Commandments with His finger (Exodus 31:18; Deuteronomy 9:10). 'There appeared the fingers of a man's hand and wrote on the wall ... then was the part of the hand sent from the Most High God' (Daniel 5:5 & 24).

God has feet and legs: (author's note: in order to have feet, God would need legs). 'And thick darkness was under His feet (Psalms 18:9).

God sits: 'He Who sits in the heavens laughs' (Psalm 2:4). 'O You Who sits in heaven' (Psalm 123:1). 'It is God Who sits above the circle of the earth' (Isaiah 40:22). 'God sits on His holy throne' (Psalm 47:8).

God has a heart and can grieve: 'He was grieved at heart (Genesis 6:6). 'Forty long years was I grieved with that generation' (Psalm 95:10).

God has a soul, can be burdened and becomes weary: 'Your New Moon Festivals...My soul hates. They are an oppressive burden to Me; I am weary of bearing them' (Isaiah 1:14). 'If he draws back and shrinks in fear My soul has no delight in Him' (Hebrews 10:38).

God forgets: 'I, even I, am He Who blots out and cancels your transgressions for My Own sake, and I will not remember your sins' (Isaiah 43:25). 'Forget the sins of my youth (Psalm 25:7).

God remembers: 'God remembered Noah (in the ark)' (Genesis 8:1). 'I will remember My covenant (with the earth)' (Genesis 9:15). 'He remembers that we are dust' (Psalm 103:14). 'God remembered Abraham' (Genesis 19:29). That was, God remembered the conversation He had earlier with Abraham regarding the destruction of the cities, when Abraham came close to God and stood before Him (Genesis 18:23 to 33).

God gets angry: 'Then the anger of the Lord blazed against Moses' (Exodus 4:14). 'And the Lord heard your words and was angered' (Deuteronomy 1:34).

God loves and He hates: 'For God so loved the world He gave His only Son' (John 3:16). 'For the Father Himself loves you' (John 16:27). 'God is love ... We love Him because He first loved us' (1 John 4:8 & 19). 'For every abominable thing which the Lord hates they have done' (Deuteronomy 12:31). 'Neither shall you set up an idolatrous image which the Lord your God hates' (Deuteronomy 16:22). 'Jacob I have loved but Esau I have hated' (Romans 9:13).

God feels jealousy and pity: 'The Lord is jealous for His land and has pity on His people' (Joel 2:18).

God feels pleasure; 'The Lord takes pleasure in those who worship Him and those who hope in His mercy' (Psalm 147:11). 'The Lord takes pleasure in His people' (Psalm 149:4).

We can see through these scriptures that we are the work of His hands, created in the living image and likeness of God our Father; with the visual image – head, arms, legs etc; and the emotional likeness – love, pleasure, anger, hate and jealousy. 'Know that the Lord is God! It is He Who has made us, not we ourselves. We are His people and the sheep of His pasture' (Psalm 100:3). 'It is by the free grace of God that we are saved (from judgement) through faith. This salvation is not of ourselves, but it is the gift of God' (Ephesians 2:8).

Amen and God bless you.

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