Man Maker

INTRODUCTION

The word human comes from the Latin root for humility. To be the people God intends, in the midst of all the glory that He placed us, is to be a humble human.

DISCUSSION

Why is it so hard for human beings to live lives that reflect God?

EXPLANATION

Read Hebrews 2:5-9.

What is the hardest thing for you to accept about God's creation of man?

What is the easiest to accept?

Why is God's creation of man so different than everything else?

APPLICATION

Setting all science and philosophy aside…

What are the ramifications of God making man?

What would be the ramifications, on ethics and truth, if man came about by random chance?

Why is it an important part of Christianity that God made man…in His image?

MISSION

How can understanding that God made man in His image help us better understand the gospel?

How does ascribing people dignity and worth, because they are made in God's image, give us urgency in living the gospel?

In what ways can you show your love for God by loving those He has created?

Genesis

Man Maker

Genesis 1:27
Genesis 1:1-3
Genesis 1:26-31
John 13:35
1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Man Maker

Genesis 1:27 "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them."

God made man.

This idea is never up for debate in the scriptures, it is stated as straightforward simple truth. This truth should affect all of our lives. Man is not made in the image of angels, nor is there any indication that angels participated in the creation of human beings. Man is not made in the image of animals, nor is there any indication that animas participated in the creation of human beings. Random process and chance did not create human beings, nor does the scriptures give any indication that human life is at all random.

God made man...in His image.

In the ancient Near-East people held to the belief that a king was the visible representative of a deity; thus the king ruled on behalf of the god. Scripture, though, shows man made in God's image so he can exercise dominion over all the other creatures of the seas, heavens, and earth. Being made in God's image has multiple ramifications; one of which is that humanity is endowed with authority to rule the earth as God's representatives.

Being made in God's image also shows that men and women were intended to express God's image in relationship, particularly in well-functioning human community. This includes both in marriage and in wider society.

Being made in the image of God sets man apart from the other animals. Human beings resemble God by various characteristics:

- Reason
- Morality
- Language
- A capacity for relationships governed by love and commitment
- Creativity in all forms of art.

All these insights can be put together by observing that the *resemblances* (man is like God in a series of ways) allow mankind to *represent* God in ruling, and to establish worthy *relationships* with God, with one another, and with the rest of the creation.

But being made in the image of God does not mean man is, or ever will be, God. We are creation, He is creator.

Image and likeness
- when we love we are showing God is a loving God
- when we forgive we are showing God is a forgiving God
- when we serve we are showing God is a serving God

We were made to reflect His goodness into His creation. Because we are made in the image and likeness of God, we have dignity value and worth.

John Calvin "As a mirror reflects an image so man is to reflect God"

The word human comes from the Latin root for humility. To be the people God intends, in the midst of all the glory that He placed us, is to be a humble human. God considered humanity to be His greatest creation. That should make us humble, because He didn't have to create us.

We must realize that we are not God and worship the only true God.