

# DOCTRINE MATTERS: ESSENTIAL TRUTHS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

## Message 10: **Anthropology**: The What and Why of Man

### **Psalm 8:3-4 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> *When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,* <sup>4</sup> **what is man** that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?

“Man” as mankind/humanity/humankind, etc.

### **Genesis 5:1-2 (ESV)**

<sup>1</sup> *This is the book of the generations of Adam. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God.*

<sup>2</sup> *Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them Man when they were created.*

### **Question 1 – What is Man?**

#### **Genesis 1:26a (ESV)**

<sup>26</sup> *God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.”*

**The fact that man is made “in the image of God” means that man is \_\_\_\_\_ \* God and \_\_\_\_\_ God.**

How can it be said we are “like” God?

\_\_\_\_\_ -  
\_\_\_\_\_ -  
\_\_\_\_\_ -  
\_\_\_\_\_ -

How can it be said we “represent” God?

We are His \_\_\_\_\_ on the earth!

We are “\_\_\_\_\_” of the King of the universe, exercising His dominion. (Gen 1:26b)

We are \_\_\_\_\_ directly by God. (Psalm 100:3)

*God is the precondition of man (Acts 17:24) ...*

*Man is not God (Hosea 11:9) ...*

*Man is obligated to submit to God (Rom 1:25) ...*

*Man has a unique roll/responsibility in the world (Gen 1:26-28) ...*

*Man was created to \_\_\_\_\_ God, primarily (Isa 43:6-7) ...*

*When the Creator of the universe wanted to create something “in his image”, something more like himself than all the rest of creation, he made us!*

## Implications of “Imago Dei”:

1. All human beings have innate, God-given \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Even after \_\_\_\_\_, mankind still possesses His image/Likeness. (Gen 9:6)

*Why this matters ...*

3. The perfect revelation of God’s image is \_\_\_\_\_. (Col 1:15, Hebrews 1:3, John 14:9)
4. The essence of our redemption/salvation is the progressive \_\_\_\_\_ of that image:

### **Colossians 3:10 (ESV)**

<sup>10</sup> and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

### **2 Corinthians 3:18 (ESV)**

<sup>18</sup> And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

### **Romans 8:29 (ESV)**

<sup>29</sup> For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

## Question 2 – Why Was Man Created?

**God did not “\_\_\_\_\_” to create us!**

There is no \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ in God.

### **Acts 17:24-25 (ESV)**

<sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man,  
<sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.

### **John 17:5 (ESV)**

<sup>5</sup> And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

### **John 17:24 (ESV)**

<sup>24</sup> Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

**God made us for \_\_\_\_\_!**

### **Isaiah 43:6b-7 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup> ... bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, <sup>7</sup> everyone who is called by my name, **whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.**”

This guarantees that our lives are \_\_\_\_\_!

*We are important to God Himself! We are created, chosen, saved, etc. all to glorify Him!*

This keeps us rightly \_\_\_\_\_.

*“God does not exist to make a big deal out of us. We exist to make a big deal out of him. It’s not about you. It’s not about me. It’s all about him.”*

— Max Lucado, *It's Not About Me: Rescue From the Life We Thought Would Make Us Happy*

This determines the correct answer to the question, “What is my \_\_\_\_\_ in life?”

**Ephesians 1:11-12 (ESV)**

<sup>11</sup> *In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, <sup>12</sup> so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be **to the praise of his glory.***

Our fundamental sin:

**Romans 1:18-21 (NIV)**

<sup>18</sup> *The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, <sup>19</sup> since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.*

<sup>20</sup> *For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--his eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. <sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, **they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.***

**10 ways I can glorify God:**

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ Him. (Psalm 96)
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ Him. (1 Chron. 16:23-29)
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ Him. (Psa 86:12, 118:28)
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_ Him. (2 Thess 1:11-12)
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_ Him. (2 Cor 4:13-15)
- 6) \_\_\_\_\_ Him. (Rev 14:7)
- 7) \_\_\_\_\_ Him. (John 15:8, 2 Peter 3:18)
- 8) \_\_\_\_\_ Him (w/your body ... 1 Cor 6:20, 10:31)
- 9) \_\_\_\_\_ Him. (1 Peter 4:10-13)
- 10) \_\_\_\_\_ Him. (Gal 5:22-26, 1 Peter 2:12)

*Theology is for **doxology and devotion**—that is, the praise of God and the practice of godliness.*

- J.I. Packer

NEXT WEEK:  
**Anthropology, Part 2**