

Humanity: Image of God

A. Introduction

1. Biblical Texts

Gen. 1:26-28, Gen. 5:1-3, **Gen. 9:6**, Psalm 8:3-9, Exodus 20:4-5 (cf. Deut. 5:8-9), Rom. 8:29, I Cor. 11:7, 15:49, II Cor. 3:18, 4:4, **Eph. 4:22-24**, Col. 1:15, **3:9-10**, Heb. 1:3, 2:5-9, **James 3:9**.

2. No distinction between image (צלם, *tselem*) and likeness (דמות, *demūth*). These are synonyms.

3. Image remains (Gen. 9:6, James 3:9) and is lost at the fall (Col. 3:10, Eph. 4:24).

B. What is the Image?

1. We **represent** God (image is something **we do**)

a. Rule (contemporary theologians)

b. Righteousness (16th century reformers: Luther and Calvin)

2. We **resemble** God (image is something **we are**)

a. Rationality (early and medieval theologians: Augustine and Aquinas)

b. Relationality (20th century neo-orthodoxy: Barth and Brunner)