



Wonders of GOD'S Creation

So Close, and Yet So Far . . .

Gorillas are fascinating. From a genetic standpoint, more than 95 percent of their DNA is identical to ours. They have a lot in common with us and can even do some things we do. They have opposable thumbs. They can walk upright. They form tight-knit relationships and travel together. They can even be taught sign language. (One gorilla, Koko, understood over 2,000 spoken words and could use 1,000 signs to communicate.)

And yet, in spite of all that, gorillas and humans are worlds apart.

Why?

Solomon marked a distinction between the “spirit of the sons of men” and the “spirit of the animal” (Ecclesiastes 3:21). Elihu noted that “the spirit in a person, the breath of the Almighty . . . gives them understanding” (Job 32:8, New International Version).

When God made the human race, He gave us something extra, something that equips us to understand more, do more, create more and *become* more than the animal kingdom around us—something the Bible calls the “spirit in man.”

“What man knows the things of a man except [by] the spirit of the man which is in him?” wrote the apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 2:11.

Learn more about this human component in our video “[The Role of the Spirit in Man](#).”

Pictured: western lowland gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla gorilla*)

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