

**Old Union Missionary Baptist Ministers School**  
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**“The Image of The Invisible God”**

*by*

Elder Billy L. Moran

In 1 Corinthians 15:45-47, there is a reference to the first man Adam, and also to the last man Adam. The text states, “the first Adam was of the earth, earthy” and, “the second Adam was the Lord from heaven.” The Scriptures teach, that both had the image and likeness of God as a part of their nature. An account is given as to how each man originated and the purpose for which they were created is given, and also, the specific role each would have in the eternal plan of God.

The Creation of Adam, “The earth man”: God said, “Let us make man”! Since God is a triune God, “Elohiym” the plural form, of the word ‘God’, is used here. Thus indicating the unity of the GodHead; Father, Son, and Holy Ghost;. God said, “let us” **make him**, (the man) in “our” image, after our likeness. (Genesis 1:26-28)

First, God Created the body, the tabernacle for the soul to live in. The Hebrew word for create is “BaRa”, (bawraw) “a formative process” “And the Lord God formed man (the body) from the dust of the ground. (Ge. 2:7) Carefully, with love, God fashioned the body to accommodate every faculty, and function, whether mental, physical, or spiritual, that he wanted him to perform.

Now, it was not the body of our first parents, that was created in the image and likeness of God, it was the soul. “God is a Spirit.” (John 4:24) and, “a spirit does not have flesh and bones. (Luke 24:39) Then, “The Lord formed the spirit of man within the lifeless body”. (Zech. 12:1) and, I believe, that’s the point when the miracle took place. God breathed into the nostrils of that “dirt sculpture”, the “Breath of Life” and man became a “living soul”. The first Adam became a living, breathing, human being, with an immortal soul, and a likeness of God. **No! He did not look like God!** But the fact is, **he was created upright!** “Lo, This only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions.” (Ecclesiastes 7:29)

Adam was intelligent! He could think, choose, and act; he had communion with his creator; and had finite knowledge! He was also finitely righteous and holy, like God! (WITHOUT SIN) He and his wife, Eve, the mother of all living, who was taken from his side, custom made for him; lived in a new subdivision in Eden, which means delight and pleasure, called, “Paradise Garden”. Adam enjoyed the free agency of man, and communion with his maker for a period of time. God was certainly gracious to Adam and Eve, but they were not living under Grace; neither did they fall from Grace. Adam was on probation! (a period of testing, subject to obedience to God’s law, and was warning; If you disobey you will surely die; become separated by sin. The Apostle Paul gives us the outcome: Wherefore, as by one man, sin entered into the world; and death by sin: and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned. (Romans 5:12)

### **"The Last Adam, "The Lord from Heaven"**

I know, we read in the Old Testament, about God appearing to different individuals. Those were times when God made his presence known, talked to them face to face (directly), not that they saw him with their natural eyes. But rather, God communed with them and his presence was real. I make this explanation because, the Bible says; "No man hath seen God at any time; The only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father hath declared him." (John 1:18) Or hath revealed and made known, the person and nature of God!

Paul identifies Jesus as, "God's Dear Son" and describes him as, "**The Image of The Invisible God**" (Col. 1:13-15) Again, Paul describes Jesus as being "The brightness of God's glory, and the **"Express Image of his person"**. (Hebrews 1:2-3) He was, and He is!

As with Adam, It was not the body that was made in the image and likeness of God; Neither was it the body of Jesus, that was the express image of God. In fact the body of Jesus was in the likeness of man. "Wherefore in all things it behoved him (His responsibility) to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people." (Heb. 2:17) (Man sinned; Man must redeem!)

The Gospel of John informs us, "In the beginning was the Word, "Logos" (God's way of expressing himself to mankind in a better way) and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. (V1-4) He continues, He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. (V. 10) The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory of the only begotten of the father) full of grace and truth." (V14) **Describe His Glory!**

It pleased the Father that in him (the man Jesus) all fullness should dwell. (Col. 1:19 All the fullness of God, "For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. (as a man Col 2:9)

The same writer, says "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard; which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; (1John Ch 1) The apostles associated with him daily and saw both his deity and humanity.

Is this redundant? Redundant means, no longer needed or useful! This is one of the most needed messages in any generation. **Just preach Jesus, till Jesus comes again!**

Jesus retained every attribute that he had in heaven except one! Because he was confined to a human body he could not bodily be in all places at the same time. However, he was still omniscience and knew all things, and had no need to ask any man anything. (John 2:24-25) In every way, the deity of Jesus was the same while on earth as when he was in Heaven! And,...



“Who being in the form of God; thought it not robbery to be equal with God...” (Phil. 2:6)  
Jesus had all the essential attributes; Love, Mercy, Grace, Power, Sympathy, Justice, Knowledge, Patience, Understanding, Long-Suffering, Eternal, and, was **equal in the Godhead**. He did not rob God of any Glory! **“For it pleased the Father that in him should all fullness dwell.”** “For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.” (Col. 2:9)

The writer of Hebrews says, God, who spake in past dispensations to the fathers; by the Prophets, has spoken unto us, the present dispensation, by “His Son”, Who “being”, **the brightness of his Glory**, (not who was, or who will be, but who “being”, in the eternal present tense, the **brightness** (highlight and his greatest joy) **of his glory** and “The **Express image** of his person”. **Express image** in the Greek, is charakter, a stamped figure, an exact copy, identical. Jesus said, “I and My Father are one!” (Jn 10:30)

Jesus made himself of no reputation, He did not exalt himself and come as a King, or Monarch, or ruler, but rather, he put limitations upon himself, by emptying himself. You may ask how he did that? Do you remember Jesus praying, and saying to his Father. “I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. And now, O Father, Glorify thou me with thine own self, with the glory I had with thee before the world was.” (John 17:4-5)

Jesus gave up the majestic splendor of Heaven; and the eternal glory with his Father, and clothed himself with humanity. Isaiah Ch. 53 gives a graphic description of the horrific sufferings he subjected himself too, when he took the form of a servant, one who performs duties and services for others, not himself.

And he was made in the likeness of men. The humanity of Jesus was real. There was no magic; His humanity was as real as his deity.

A virgin was overshadowed by the Holy Ghost, Mary was her name; and she conceived by the seed of God; That baby developed human flesh and bones in her womb and experienced a normal, natural birth. And they called his name “Jesus” ! Savior!

The Angel of the Lord Announced his birth! Fear Not: Behold I bring you glad tidings of Great Joy! Which shall be to all People For unto you is born this day in the city of David A Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And suddenly there was with the Angel, a multitude of the heaven host praising God, and saying, peace on earth, good will toward men.

Thus,... Jesus humbled him self, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. And because of this; “Wherefore God hath highly exalted him and given him a Name that is above every name; that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,..... and every tongue should confess, that Jesus is Lord. to the glory of the Father.” (Phillipians 2:9-11J {Phillip said, Just show us the Father, it will suffice us. (We’ll be alright) Jesus answered, Phillip, ‘He that hath seen me has seen the Father’ (John 14:1-14)