



Genesis 1:26-31—Man
From sermon 4.19.20

Read *Genesis 1:26-31*

Questions, Answers, & Review from Sunday's sermon: Two truths are immediately clear from the text: God is a Trinity and man is completely unique in Creation. Only man is created in the image of God—which includes many distinct characteristics. He is given the commission to rule the rest of Creation. God provided a means of salvation to man alone.

What are some of the God-like qualities given solely to man that establish him as unique in Creation and what does each mean?

<u>Quality</u>	<u>Meaning/Significance</u>
1. A Spirit/Soul	God is Spirit. There is more to us than just this body/life.
2. All People are <u>Eternal</u>	These bodies will die due to sin. But, the spirit is eternal in both believers and non-believers. Both will be resurrected to live forever somewhere. (heaven or hell)
3. Reason, Intellect, Abstract Thinking, & a Will*	We can think outside of current environment. Man is a creator. He can comprehend a transcendent God/heaven/eternity.
4. <u>Emotion, Relationship, & Worship</u> . See <i>Psalms 8:3-9</i>	Man can love (even a self-less god-like love). He is wired for intimate relationship (spouse, children, parents, siblings, friends, community, & with God. Man alone worships God. (& angels)
5. Eventually—knowing <u>Good</u> & <u>Evil</u>	We have a conscience that knows good and evil. Civil laws are universal.

Teaching Note: * Regarding the will. Yes, God gave man a will. We do what that will dictates (for the most part). Since Adam's fall, that will is in bondage. Our natural desire is to reject God, rebel against Scripture, and serve our own sinful desires. We will never choose God on our own—our will is against Him/His. For salvation, God must first give us a new, resurrected will.

What are some of the consequences of viewing man as just another animal? It removes God from the picture = accountability to Him. Survival of the fittest is justified. Genocides, crimes, bigotry, hatred, abortion, & refusal to use death penalty.

What is the greatest evidence of the value God places on man? When Jesus came to redeem the elect, He came as a man. See *Philippians 2:5-7*

God made man to be a creator. What are some incredible things man has invented, built, or created? Various personal answers. Also, sadly, what are some ways man has corrupted some of those greatest achievements? Various answers also. This week, read *Isaiah 44:9-23*

Like every other beautiful thing God created and man corrupted, how has man historically and contemporarily worshipped man? The deification of Pharaohs, kings, & emperors. Fashioning images of people to be bowed down to, revered. The elevating and copying of celebrities, sports stars, political figures, and influencers. (dress like, talk like, shop like, think like, follow...). The worship/serving of self. See *Romans 1:22-23*