

Daily Devotional

May 1, 2005

(Contributed by David Berry)

Theme: The Image of God

Text: *Genesis 1:26, NIV*

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness."

Thought: Here for the first time we encounter the thought that it was God's intention to make man a godlike being – someone in God's image. Man would live in complete dependency on God and receive from Him what is holy and blessed. The glory, holiness, and love of God would live in man and radiate from him.

But when sin spoiled the image of God in man, God gave the promise of a descendant of a woman in whom the divine purpose would be fulfilled. "The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being" (Hebrews 1:3). He was to become a Son of man, in whom God's plan would be carried out.

This idea of the Creation is carried over into the New Testament where the children of God are spoken of as being predestined to alter to a likeness of His Son. The expectancy is worded in 2 Corinthians 3:18 as follows: "And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit." We are being changed more and more into a likeness of Christ. Just a few verses earlier Paul spoke of the greater glory of the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

The promise contained in the text must be remembered. It is for all those who give Jesus Christ the position of glorified Lord. You must remember that you are God's representative on earth, and that the Spirit of God is capable of renewing you in His image

Prayer: Lord, renew me today through the work of Your Spirit, so that I can reflect Your glory and win people for Your Kingdom.