



God Didn't Make Any Junk!

(Anthropology: The Nature of Humanity in Relationship to God)

Introduction: Images of Humanity. Consider the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly of Human Beings.



*BIG= Biblical Investigation of God, Peace Fellowship Church's Summer Theological Institute



√ Who are We?

- ◆ Ask for Responses
- ◆ Male and Female Are Made in the Image of God (Genesis 1:26; 5:1; 9:6; James 3:9)
 - What God made was very good! (Genesis 1:31)
 - “Image of God” = like God in many ways (not “his” image simply in a possessive sense, like “my sculpture as compared to your sculpture, so it’s ‘my’ image”)

*BIG= Biblical Investigation of God, Peace Fellowship Church’s Summer Theological Institute

- Being made in the “image of God” means that all human life is valuable!
- Being made in the “image of God” means that all human life is worthy of dignity and respect!
- Don’t forget: Male **AND** female are made in the image of God!

How might we as Christians demonstrate our awareness that human beings are made in the image of God (i.e., what kinds of attitudes and actions should we have)?

√ Why are we here?

- ◆ Ask for Responses
- ◆ We Were Created for God’s Glory (Isaiah 43:7)
- ◆ God Wants a Relationship With His Creation (Covenants, e.g., Jeremiah 31:31-33; Romans 9:25)
- ◆ Our Purpose is to Do Good Works and Bring God Glory

Matthew 5:13 "You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. **14** "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden.**15** No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house.**16** In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

- ◆ We Were Created To Have a Meaningful, Joyful, Blessed Life! (John 10:10; Psalm 16:11; 1 Peter 1:8; Matthew 5:1-12)

John 10: 10 The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

How might we Christians encourage each other in affirming why God has us here?

√ So, Why Doesn’t Everyone Enjoy Harmony With God?

- ◆ Sin!
 - Through Adam:
 - Guilt is inherited (Romans 5:12; 18-19)

***BIG= Biblical Investigation of God, Peace Fellowship Church’s Summer Theological Institute**

- Our very nature is corrupted (Psalm 51:5; Ephesians 2:3)

- ◆ Everyone Sins (Romans 3:12, 23)
- ◆ Sin deserves punishment (Romans 6:23)
- ◆ Sin, however, has a cure (Romans 6:23) – more on this next week!

√ Yet, In Spite of Our Sin Don't Forget:

- ◆ God Loves Us (John 3:16; Romans 8:35-39)

(Put Verses Here)

- ◆ God Is On Our Side (Romans 8:31)
- ◆ God Wants Us to Be With Him! (Isaiah 43:1-2; Matthew 28:20; John 10:27-29)

What might you say to encourage a person who questions why they're on earth, or who thinks that life isn't worth living?