

1. The Image of God Genesis 1:26

A. Genesis 1:26 (This is the first chapter of the Bible – think how important this is)

1. 'Let Us make man in Our image' humanity is the unique creation of Almighty God; this is said of nothing else in creation; this one verse should give us incredible dignity & purpose
 - a. what an honor; this is why the lie of evolution is promoted so – the devil wants us to think we are merely another animal, to degrade us; he wants to deceive us to believe (because our flesh desires to sin) that sinning is just a matter of animal instinct
2. 'image' resemblance; replica; representative figure (we represent Him)
 - essential nature – we are moral beings, our intelligence, perception and self determination far exceeds any other creation
 - illusion – one thing mistaken for another – Adam looked like God
3. 'likeness' pattern (we are patterned after God) – specifications from which an actual item is made; Jesus is our Example (John 13:15-17); 2 Peter 1:3-4 God's Word enables us to be partakers of His divine nature – think of that; privilege/responsibility
4. 'let them have dominion' reign, dominate, tread down, prevail against; we have qualities of God in us and were created to rule this earth; we were to be the 'god of this world'
 - a. (John 4:24; Genesis 2:7 S1) God is Spirit and we are spirit beings as well
 - b. (Romans 5:5 S2) God's love is in us; (Galatians 5:22-23 S3) the fruit of the Spirit – Jesus' character is in us; joy despite circumstances; peace always; faithful at all times; self control over what we say and do; etc.
 - c. (Acts 1:8 S4) we are to be empowered by the Holy Spirit; (John 16:23-24 S5) we have been given the Name of Jesus to minister by
 - d. (Genesis 2:19 S6) we were always to work together with the Lord (John 17:18)
 - (1 Peter 1:5) be holy as He is holy; (John 13:34) we are to love each other as He loved us; (John 14:12) the works He did we'll do +; (Ephesians 4:32) forgive as He forgave us; (Matthew 10:25) disciple is like his Teacher; a servant is to be like his Master
 - e. 'dominion' the law of original intent – God always intended man to have dominion on this earth; Adam lost it, the Lord Jesus regain the authority and gave it back to us

B. Hebrews 11:3 Here Is One More Vital Way We Are Made In the Image of God

1. 'By faith' this has a double meaning; #1 we must believe that this is how God created the universe; #2 we must know that it was God's faith in His words that created the universe – this was the process that He used to create the universe
2. 'framed' God's Word perfectly fit the universe together with His words
 - a. 'framed' thoroughly completed; perfectly joined together
 - God spoke what He wanted, not what He did not want; God's words produced exactly what He said; Arthur Pink – the universe was arranged in a wise and beautiful order by the Word of God
 - **(Psalm 33:6 S7)** God's words made the heavens
 - faith in the words that you speak will frame your world as well
 - (Note: 'framed' also means mend; repair; restore; this is a key principle in divine healing; what you say greatly effects your health)
3. 'so that the things which are seen...' what we see was created by the unseen; the spiritual realm created and can change the natural realm by words
 - a. God created something from nothing by what He said; so do we
4. **Hebrews 1:3** 'upholding' Jesus not only created the universe with His words, He maintains the universe with His words
 - a. Your words will uphold every aspect of your life as well (positive, faith filled scriptures and words)
 - b. the word is in the present tense implying continuous action that is maintaining something that is in constant movement; you do this by your words; this is a lifestyle
 - c. everything continues in an orderly fashion because Jesus Christ commands it to be so with His words; you can do the same

5. Mark 11:23

Mark 11:23 For assuredly, I say to you, whoever **says** to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but **believes** that those things he **says** will be done, he will have whatever he **says**.

- a. 'I say to you' Jesus spoke this spiritual principle into existence
- b. 'mountain' proverbially for overcoming a difficulty
- c. 'does not doubt in his heart' faith is in your spirit
- d. Since we are made in God's image and have creative power in our words just like He does, we will have what we believe and say (we must speak life and victory)