

What's in an Image?

by Landon Jostes

"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. – Genesis 1:27

God created the world and everything in it by the word of his power in six days with his eye toward the creation of mankind. God was preparing a holy habitation suitable for the enjoyment and livelihood for those who are made in his own image. At the culmination of creation week, God personally formed Adam from the dust of the ground, breathing an immortal soul into his body (Gen 2:7), and formed Eve from the rib of Adam (Gen 2:22). In this way, God made man male and female. This is a complementary relationship where the two together – male and female – properly make the image of God.

So, what is particular to the image of God that differentiates humanity from every other creature that roams this world? "The parts of the image of God impressed on his soul, were, knowledge on his mind, righteousness on his will, and holiness on his affections" (Boston). In other words, God made man upright with the ability to love the LORD their God with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength (Deut 6:5; Eccl 7:29).

And with this knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, God blessed mankind with these words, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it" (Gen 1:28). God gave man dominion over the creatures. Even before the Fall, God blessed Adam and Eve with the work of subduing the earth and exercising dominion over the creatures. In this way, Adam and Eve were resembling Christ himself who "upholds the universe by the word of his power" (Heb 1:3).

Nevertheless, this perfect conformity to God's image was not to last. Sin entered the world through Adam's rebellion against God (Rom 5:12). Though mankind fell from this state of innocence, we still retain a shadow of the image of God (cf. Gen 9:6). Knowledge of God is intentionally suppressed (Rom 1:18). The righteousness of man has been completely lost (Rom 4:10). The holiness of our affections has been wholly turned to the things of this world (1 John 2:15-17).

Yet thanks be to God that all hope is not lost. "In Christ shall all be made alive" (1 Cor 15:22). The only way to recover the image of God is through our union in Christ through faith. By grace, the Spirit unites us to Christ by working faith in us. By grace, we are daily being renewed in the whole man after the image of God. By grace, the image of God tainted by sin will one day be perfected in glory. In glory, all those who put their faith in Christ in this life will perfectly reflect the image of their Creator and Redeemer forever and ever.

WSC Q. 10, How did God create man?

A. God created man male and female, after his own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, with dominion over the creatures.

April 2026

Sundays Weekly:

Prayer Meeting- 8:00
 Sunday School- 9:00
 AM Worship- 10:15
 PM Worship- 5:30

Highlights for May:

- Coffee Shop Music/Game Night-5/2
- Last Midweek Meeting for the Spring-5/20
- End of the School Year Beach Bash-TBD

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Women's Bible Study- 9:30-10:45AM MidWeek at WPC 5:15-7:00PM	2 Carpenters Apprentices- 6-7AM	3 Food Ministry- 9AM Good Friday Service 6:00-7:00PM	4
5 EASTER SUNDAY	6	7 Women's AM Bible Study- 9:30-10:45AM	8 Women's Bible Study- 9:30-10:45AM MidWeek at WPC 5:15-7:00PM	9 Carpenters Apprentices- 6-7AM	10 Food Ministry- 9AM	11
12 Lord's Supper- AM	13	14 Women's AM Bible Study-9:30-10-45AM Joint Officer Meeting 6:30PM Women's PM Bible Study- 6:30-8:00PM	15 Women's Bible Study- 9:30-10:45AM MidWeek at WPC 5:15-7:00PM	16 Carpenters Apprentices- 6-7AM	17 Food Ministry- 9AM	18
19	20	21	22 Women's Bible Study- 9:30-10:45AM MidWeek at WPC 5:15-7:00PM	23 Carpenters Apprentices- 6-7AM	24 Food Ministry- 9AM	25
26 Lord's Supper- PM	27 Missions Meeting- 5:30-7:00 PM	28 Women's PM Bible Study- 6:30-8:00PM	29 MidWeek at WPC 5:15-7:00PM	30 Carpenters Apprentices- 6-7AM	31 Food Ministry- 9AM	

Key: BLUE- Church Wide Events | PURPLE- Bible Studies | ORANGE- NextGen | GREEN- Children's Events | BROWN- Food Ministry | RED- Meetings | BLACK- Holidays

Quarterly Communion Offering: One Hopeful Place-a shelter for men and women that provides transitional housing and emergency shelter services while guiding unhoused individuals towards stability, self-sufficiency, and independence.

Missionary Highlight:



Middle East Reformed Fellowship



Perry and Betty

Middle East Reformed Fellowship (MERF) Pastor Victor Atallah, Lanarca, Cyprus

Middle East Reformed Fellowship is an evangelical Christian organization which serves in the Middle East, North Africa and Asia on behalf of Reformed and Presbyterian Churches. MERF strengthens churches with evangelism, church extension, biblical training, and diaconal aid with Pastor Victor Atallah as the head of the MERF organization. Please pray for the 22 nations that MERF serves. Pray for Pastor Victor Atallah and the MERF staff as they share the love of Christ to people living in darkness.

Perry and Betty, MTW **Sensitive location**

Pray for Perry and Betty and their family and the work they are doing in Europe. Pray that their church plant would grow as they share the gospel with people who have deep local religious ties. and pray for fruit in the lives of friends that Perry has been witnessing to as well. Pray that they would trust in the Lord to continue to sustain them financially and that they would not experience another deficit in their MTW account. Lastly, please pray for their boys and their college studies.

How can I support Missions?

PRAY for our Missionaries | **GIVE** to Missions | **GO** on a Missions Trip | **JOIN** the Missions Team

Local:

- Good News Jail & Prison Ministry, Chaplain Shane Hardesty

National:

- Presbyterian and Reformed Chaplain Corp (PRCC)
- Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at UF, Pastor Steve Lammers
- Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at FSU, Pastor Kelly Jackson

International:

- Middle East Reformed Fellowship, Pastor Victor Atallah
- Brenda Carter, MTW San Yi, Taiwan
- Chris and Savanna, MTW (sensitive)
- Franklin and Beth Beaver, MTW Worldwide
- David and Jill Martin, MTW Odessa, Ukraine/Brasov, Romania
- Ang Bahay Parola (The Lighthouse) Children's Home, MTW Manila, Philippines
- Evangelical Reformed Seminary of Kyiv, Ukraine
- Perry and Betty, MTW (sensitive)
- Robert and Lisa Stewart, MTW Nagoya, Japan
- Verne and Alina Marshall, MTW Santiago, Chile
- John and Lu Elliot, IXO Nicoya, Costa Rica
- Donny and Courtney Harwood, MTW Glasgow, Scotland