



# WHY YOU ARE SPECIAL TO GOD

## Study 8 Humanity

Are you a creature of chance that just "happened" to be born? Are you no more than the end result of an evolutionary chain? Are you just some kind of advanced animal - nothing more than flesh and bones? If this were true, then you would be no more to God than your pet cat is to you. However you are **special** to God. You are unique! Why?

### MAN WAS MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

When God first made man, he made him in his own likeness. Read Genesis 1: 26-27. Write the first part of verse 26 here:

When God designed us, he was not wanting just another creature. He was to be like Him! He was meant to think like him; he was meant to act like him; he was meant to be a **son!** (See Luke 3: 38)

### YOU ARE MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD TOO

You may question, "Adam was a son in God's image, but was I made to be a son or daughter of God too"? Study Acts 17: 25-29. What does he say we are? (Verse 28)



True



False

You may suppose "God gave life to the first man, and then left it to nature to continue, therefore it was really only your mother and father who gave you birth." True or false? (Psalm 100: 3, Psalm 139: 13)

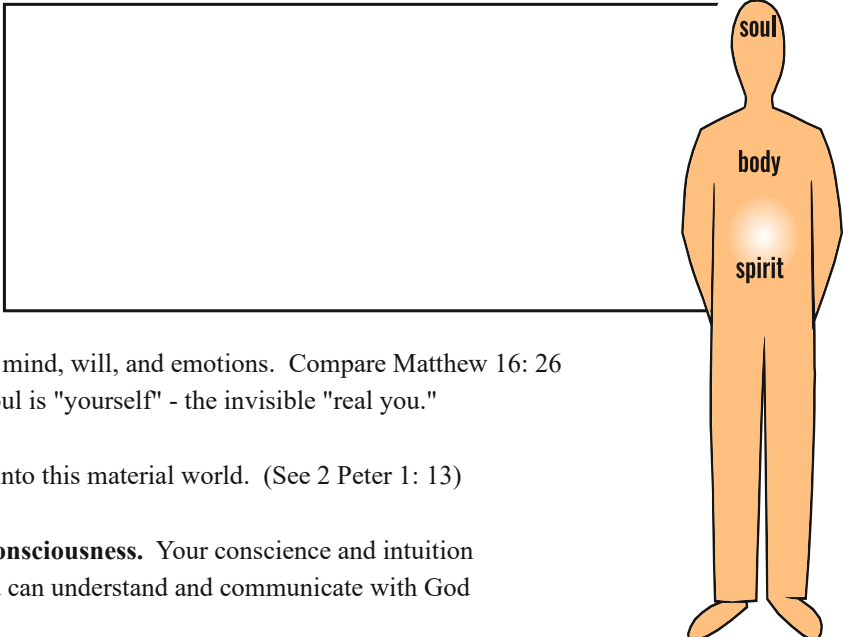
Perhaps you have thought that because Adam messed everything up, no one is made in God's image any more. Obviously something is wrong. Otherwise there would be no need to be born again. But read Genesis 9: 6 then James 3: 9. Look! There's still a likeness. Compare Genesis 5: 3 with Luke 3: 38. Clearly, there is still a connection.

What does it mean then, "to be made in God's image"? Most people suppose that this refers to a physical likeness (i.e. having two legs, ears, nose, hands, feet, etc) but that's hardly important. What it **really** means is this, that despite the fact that it has been twisted and must be reborn, (see next three studies), we are still **basically** in the image of God! In other words ...

### ... 1/ YOU ARE A TRINITY, LIKE GOD

Man is a "mini trinity." We have three distinct parts: soul, spirit, and body. Study Hebrews 4: 12 and 1 Thessalonians 5: 23. Write the last verse here:

- **The SOUL is the real you.** It is what gives you personality, individuality, and identity. It makes you unique from every other person. The soul contains your mind, will, and emotions. Compare Matthew 16: 26 with Luke 9: 25 and you will see that the soul is "yourself" - the invisible "real you."
- **The BODY is the container** of the soul into this material world. (See 2 Peter 1: 13)
- **The SPIRIT is the centre of spiritual consciousness.** Your conscience and intuition are part of the spirit. Also, by the spirit you can understand and communicate with God in the spiritual realm. (Job 32: 8)



**... 2/ YOU'RE A SPIRIT MOTIVATED BEING, LIKE GOD**

Sadly, mankind is not led by the Spirit anymore. This is explained in studies nine and ten. The point here is that man is **still made** in the basic image of God and therefore **designed** to be motivated by the Spirit [in his spirit] whether he does so or not.

**... 3/ YOU'RE IMMORTAL, LIKE GOD**

Spirit cannot die. Neither can you, because you are a "spiritual" being designed by God to live forever. (See Titus 1: 2) That everyone may not necessarily enjoy eternal life **with** God does not alter the fact that their spirit is immortal - like God.

Mark 9: 43-48 and Matthew 25: 46 teaches that every person will live eternally somewhere. But where? Name the two places.

\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_

**... 4/ YOU ARE MORAL, LIKE GOD**

In study six we saw that God thinks and acts and **is** the way he is because he is motivated by certain driving forces which are ingrained in his nature. These are called God's "moral attributes."

List them here again.



1/ \_\_\_\_\_

2/ \_\_\_\_\_

3/ \_\_\_\_\_

4/ \_\_\_\_\_

5/ \_\_\_\_\_

**These things**

which make God "tick" should be what make you "tick" too! After all, if we are God's offspring, made in his image, then it is only natural that we should think and act the same way as he does. In fact God considers it unnatural **not** to be like him! Study Leviticus 19: 2, Matthew 5: 48, and Luke 6: 36. On what grounds (rationale) does God **expect** that we be these things?

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**WHY YOU ARE SPECIAL TO GOD**

God loves you, not because of what you've done, but because of who you are. You were the son in his story. (Luke 15:11-32) You were his - made in his image - even though you were far from him and no longer able to be called a son. Look what God said when you came back to him. Put your first name in verse 24.



"For **this son (daughter) of mine**

( \_\_\_\_\_ )

was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found."

**That's why YOU are special to him!**

More studies (and answers) here:  
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