

God's Purpose In The Creation of Man

Quote:

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:"

Romans 5:12

Genesis 1:26 - Marking

(Mark either besides Genesis 1:26, or at the bottom of Genesis 1-2)

"And God said, Let us make man" - Heb for "God" = 'elohim'. Here used with a plural verb, refers to the angels - see [Psalm 8:5](#); cp [Psalm 97:7](#) with [Hebrews 1:6](#)

"image" - Heb. 'tselem' - means - resemblance in bodily shape or form. ie man was made to look like the angels, just as Seth was of Adam ([Genesis 5:3](#)). Angels are called "sons of God" ([Job 38:7](#)), and therefore are in the image of God himself. See also [James 3:9](#) (we are after the similitude of God the Father) and [Hebrews 1:3](#) (Jesus Christ is the express image of God's person). This is the reason angels are mistaken for men ([Genesis 18:2](#)).

"likeness" - Heb. 'demuth' - Comes from the root word 'damah' which means to think, compare or consider. Therefore 'demuth' refers to mental capacity, that is man's ability to think, make decisions, and reason on moral principles and divine ideas. To be in the 'likeness of the elohim' means to be able to comprehend and receive Godly spiritual ideas. We can only develop this 'likeness of the elohim' through the Word of God changing us to think like God.

"have dominion" - Means - to rule over, or subdue. God intended that Man should exercise dominion over the rest of creation. This however was delayed when Adam and Eve allowed the serpent to direct their thinking and actions, and sin entered the world.

"over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." - The animals are used in the Bible to represent mortal men, and their various characteristics. Ultimately therefore this will only take place when Jesus Christ has subdued all nations, and brought under his feet all the enemies of God - including sin, and the seed of the serpent is bruised in the head. See [1 Corinthians 15:23-28](#).

Man Under Probation - Genesis 2:4-25

Man's duties in Eden, the law to which man was subjected, the formation of the woman, and the first marriage.

[vv4-7](#) - Man Before the Fall

[vv8-14](#) - The Garden Established in Eden

[vv15-17](#) - Man Brought Under Law

[vv18-22](#) - The Formation of Woman

[vv23-25](#) - The First Marriage

The Soul (Hebrew 'nephesh')

1. Used of creatures, whether man or beast. Often described as "living" (Heb "chay"), therefore it is not implied that souls have life (eg. [Genesis 1:20,21,24](#)).
2. Man only became a living soul when the breathe of life was breathed int his nostrils ([Genesis 2:7](#)).
3. Nearly 300 times (a third of total uses of the word soul) in the Bible, we read of the soul being subject to death. Here are some examples:
 - a. [Psalm 22:20](#): "Deliver my soul [Heb - 'nephesh'] from the sword..."
 - b. [Jeremiah 38:17](#): "If thou wilt assuredly go forth unto the King of Babylon's princes, then thy soul [Heb - 'nephesh'] shall live..."
 - c. [1 Samuel 19:11](#): "If thou save not thy life [Heb - 'nephesh'] tonight, tomorrow thou shalt be slain."
 - d. [1 Kings 19:10](#): "...they seek my life [Heb - 'nephesh'] to take it."
 - e. [Esther 7:7](#): "Haman stood up to make request for his life [Heb - 'nephesh']..."
 - f. [Psalm 22:29](#): "...none can keep alive his own soul [Heb - 'nephesh']..."
4. Souls can be killed:
 - a. [Joshua 10:28](#): "Joshua took Makkedah, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and the king thereof he utterly destroyed, and all the souls [Heb - 'nephesh'] that were therein..."
This is repeated in [verses 30, 32, 35, 37, and 39](#).
 - b. [Deuteronomy 27:25](#): "Cursed be he that taketh reward to slay an innocent person [Heb - 'nephesh']..."
 - c. [Judges 16:30](#) - "And Samson said, Let me [Heb. my soul] die with the Philistines..."
 - d. [Job 33:21-22](#) - "...Yea, his soul [Heb - 'nephesh'] draweth near unto the grave, and his life to the destroyers."
 - e. [Ezekiel 18:4](#) - "...the soul [Heb - 'nephesh'] that sinneth, it shall die."
 - f. [Ezekiel 18:20](#) "The soul [Heb - 'nephesh'] that sinneth, it shall die..."
5. The Dead Know Nothing:
 - a. [Psalms 6:5](#) - "For in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?"
 - b. [Psalms 13:3](#) - "Consider and hear me, O LORD my God: lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death;"
 - c. [Psalms 115:17](#) - "The dead praise not the LORD, neither any that go down into silence."
 - d. [Psalms 49:14](#) (RSV) - "Like sheep they are appointed for Sheol; Death shall be their shepherd; straight to the grave they descend, and their form shall waste away; Sheol shall be their home."
 - e. [Psalms 49:17](#) - "For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away: his glory shall not descend after him."
 - f. [Isaiah 38:18, 19](#) - "For the grave cannot praise thee, death can not celebrate thee: they that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth. The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth."