

Could You Imagine

³When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
⁴**what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?** Psalm 8: 3-4

We are deeply Loved and cared for... Created in his image. Created to be like him.

But that is not the way you learned Christ!— ²¹ assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, ²² to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, ²³ and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:21-24

The original us renewed by God...So we can

And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.
Mark 12:30

Soul- the home of the heart and the mind
Heart-the vigor and sense of physical life
Mind- the capacity for understanding, feeling, desiring
Strength- physical body, engagement in the physical world

The original us is dead without God

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. - He gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead .Ephesians 2:1-3,5

¹⁵ I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate.
Romans 7:15

God gives us life, will gives us his spirit, not responsible the original us

We are held responsible for rejecting Jesus, for refusing the new.

And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. John 3:19

So how do we put it on...?

¹⁶“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

⁵ I ask you again, does God give you the Holy Spirit and work miracles among you because you obey the law? Of course not! It is because you believe the message you heard about Christ. ⁶ In the same way, “Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith.” ⁷ The real children of Abraham, then, are those who put their faith in God. Galatians 3:5-7

Looking to His upward call based on His downward impacts...

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. ²⁵ If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. ²⁶ And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul? Matthew 16: 24-26

The impact for us is also immediate. If Jesus comes into our hearts from outside of them as he came into this world from outside of it.

²⁰ My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20

And it is intense...

¹² Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Philippians 2:12-13

Working out your salvation → with all of your heart, mind, soul and strength

²² But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. ²⁵ Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. Galatians 5:22-25