



A CHRISTIAN'S GUIDE TO

Cultural engagement THURSDAYS, JUNE 6 - AUG 1 6:30 - 7:30A







The Journey Ahead

- The original intent of humanity's creation.
- The profound impact of sin on human relationships & society.
- God's work of reconciliation through Christ.
- The believer's role within the larger context of God's redemptive work on earth.
- The church's role in holistically engaging culture.

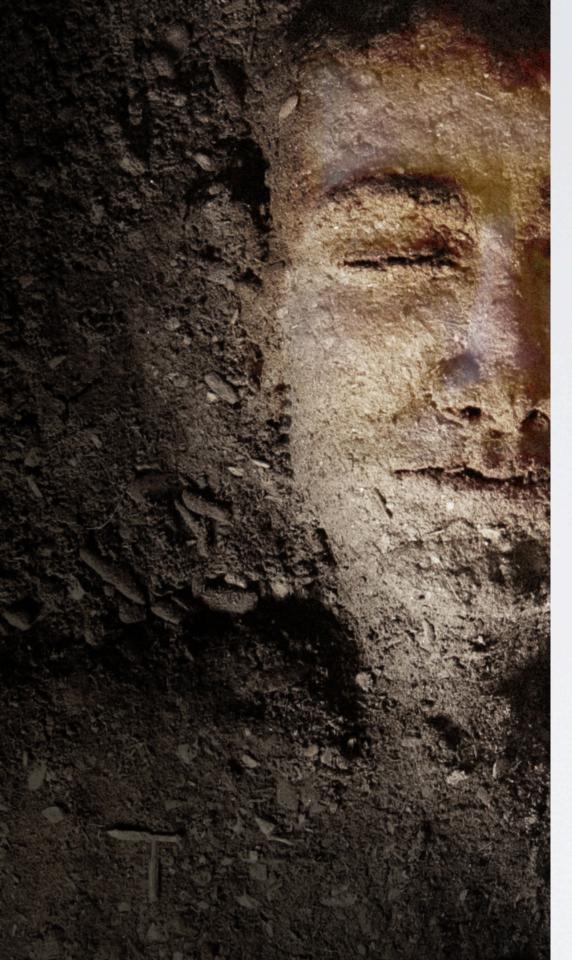


INTHE BEGINNING...

Genesis 1:1-10

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God <u>called</u> the light Day, and the darkness he <u>called</u> Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶ And God <u>said</u>, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, & let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷And God made the expanse & separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so.⁸ And God <u>called</u> the expanse Heaven. And there was evening & there was morning, the second day. ⁹ And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, & let the dry land appear." And it was so.¹⁰ God <u>called</u> the dry land Earth, & the waters that were gathered together he <u>called</u> Seas. And God saw that it was good.



²⁶Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea & over the birds of the heavens & over the livestock & over all the earth & over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." ²⁷So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male & female he created them.

Genesis I:26-27



In what ways are we different from the rest of creation?

What does the "Image of God" really mean?



"Creation Mandate"

Genesis 1:28

And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

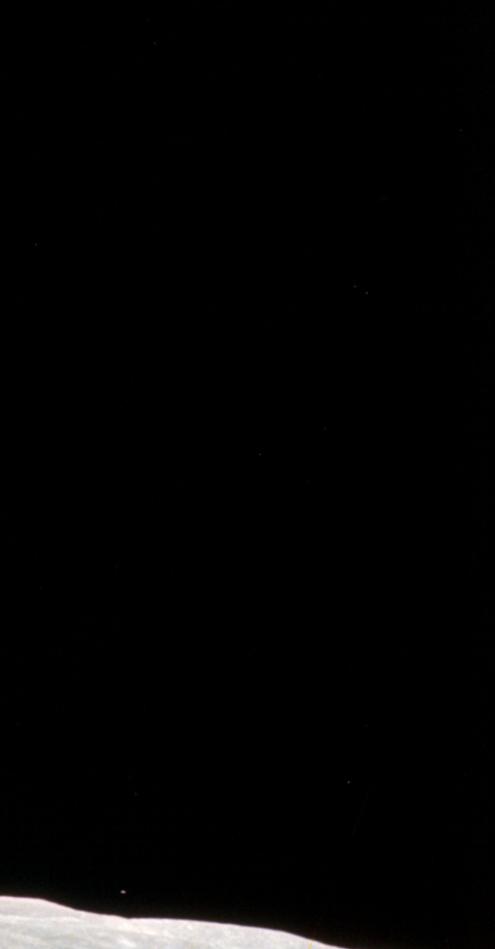
"Moral Freedom"

Genesis 2:16-17

¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, saying,
"You may surely eat of every tree of the garden,
¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil
you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it
you shall surely die."











The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. Genesis 2:15



2 Parts of the Mandate: I. Work **2. Keep**





"Work"

Labor, fruitfulness, nurturing, cultivating, tending, building up, guiding...



"Servant"



"Keep" Protect, guard, keep safe, watch over, rule over, etc.



"Leader"



"Servant-Leader"





We continue what God begins...

Genesis 2:19-20

¹⁹Now out of the ground the Lord God had formed every beast of the field & every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens & to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him.

THE SIN ISSUE



In what ways has sin altered the Imago Dei?

Destruction?

Distortion?



Genesis 4 Cain kills Abel



Whoever sheds man's blood, his blood will be shed by man, for God made man in His image.

Genesis 9:6

Genesis 3:15

I will put hostility between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed. He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.

What does sin impact?Relationship with GodRelationships with Others



The story of the Bible



CREATION





There is not a square inch in the whole domain of human existence over which Christ, who is sovereign overall, does not cry, "Mine!" **ABRAHAM KUYPER**

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact expression of His nature, sustaining all things by His powerful word. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high HEBREWS 1:3



Christ is the perfect IMAGO DEI

What should we say then? Should we continue in sin so that grace may multiply? Absolutely not! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Or are you unaware that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in a new way of life.

Romans 6:1-4



New Way of Life: 1. Great Commission 2. Great

Commandment

MATTHEW 28:18-20 --> Great Commission

"All authority in heaven & on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

John 20:21

²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

MATTHEW 22:34-40 --> Great Commands ³⁴When the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. ³⁵And one of them, an expert in the law, asked a question to test Him: ³⁶"Teacher, which command in the law is the greatest?" ³⁷He said to him, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. ³⁸This is the greatest and most important ucommand. ³⁹The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands."

The Lordship of Jesus Christ

Discussion

• How should the knowledge of Imago Dei impact how we view others? •Where do we see the brokenness of sin in our culture today? •In what ways can we be blind to the Imago Dei in others? •*How are we seeking to accomplish the Great* Commission and the Great commandment in our lives today? •What hinders us?