

The Roll of the Church in The Community

Lesson #1 – “The Restoration of All Things”

Memory Verse - Hand out Scriptures to read *

Genesis 1:27 (NKJV) *So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*

Gen. 1:26, 27; Deut. 6:5; Gen. 3:8–19; James 4:4; Gal. 4:19; Mark 2:1–12; John 10:10.

Luke 4:18–19 (NKJV) *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.”*

***Matthew 9:35 (NKJV)** *Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.*

The Image of God

An image may be either two-dimensional, such as a mirror reflection or photograph, or three-dimensional, such as a statue or hologram. Or four dimensional such as a living being.

Genesis 1:26–27 (NKJV) *Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”²⁷ So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*

***Genesis 9:6 (NKJV)** *“Whoever sheds man’s blood, by man his blood shall be shed; for in the image of God He made man.*

1 Corinthians 11:7–9 (NKJV) *For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God; but woman is the glory of man.⁸ For man is not from woman, but woman from man.⁹ Nor was man created for the woman, but woman for the man.*

Psalms 8:4–8 (NKJV) *What is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him?⁵ For You have made him a little lower than the angels, and You have crowned him with glory and honor.⁶ You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet,⁷ all sheep and oxen— even the beasts of the field,⁸ the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea that pass through the paths of the seas.*

They alone, among all the other creatures made during that time, were in God’s image. They were not evolved apes.

The Fall and Its Aftermath

How long was it between the finished Creation and the Fall?

Robes of light dissolved. Moses face glowed.

Genesis 3:8–10 *And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.⁹ And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?¹⁰ And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.*

Genesis 3:12 *And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.*

Genesis 3:13 (NKJV)¹³ *And the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”*

***Genesis 3:16 (NKJV)**¹⁶ *To the woman He said: “I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; in pain you shall bring forth children; your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.”*

Genesis 3:17–19 (NKJV)¹⁷ *Then to Adam He said, “Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat of it’: “Cursed is the ground for your sake; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life.¹⁸ Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field.¹⁹ In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return.”*

Enmity and Atonement

Genesis 3:14–15 (NKJV) *So the Lord God said to the serpent: “Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field; on your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life.*

2 Peter 2:4 (NKJV) *For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;*

***Jude 6 (NKJV)** *And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;*

Matthew 8:29 (NKJV) *And suddenly they cried out, saying, “What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?”*

Genesis 3:15 *And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”*

Revelation 12:4–5 (NKJV) *His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. ⁵ She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne.*

Romans 5:10 (NKJV) *For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.*

Colossians 1:21 (NKJV) *And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled*

Leviticus 1:3–4 (NKJV) *‘If his offering is a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish; he shall offer it of his own free will at the door of the tabernacle of meeting before the Lord. ⁴ Then he shall put his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it will be accepted on his behalf to make atonement for him.*

1 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV) *Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.*

1 John 1:9 (NKJV) *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

Restoration in Jesus

Galatians 4:19 (NKJV) *My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you,*

Romans 8:29 (NKJV) *For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.*

Ephesians 4:24 (NKJV) *and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.*

Philippians 2:5 (NKJV) *Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,*

Hebrews 1:2–3 (NKJV) *has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; ³ who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person,*

***1 Corinthians 15:49** (NKJV) ⁹ *And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.*

“In the beginning God created man in His own likeness. He endowed him with noble qualities. His mind was well balanced, and all the powers of his being were harmonious. But the Fall and its effects have perverted these gifts. Sin has marred and well-nigh obliterated the image of God in man. It was to restore this that the plan of salvation was devised, and a life of probation was granted to man. To bring him back to the perfection in which he was first created is the great object of life—the object that underlies every other.”
—E. G. White, PP p. 595.

2 Corinthians 4:3–4 (NKJV) *But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.*

The Restoring Role of the Church

The plan of salvation was formulated even before the world began.

1 Peter 1:2 (NKJV) *elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father...*

John 10:10 (NKJV) *The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*

Mark 2:1–12 (NKJV) **[Read]** *And again He entered Capernaum after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house. ² Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. ³ Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. ⁴ And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. ⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “**Son, your sins are forgiven you.**”*

Isaiah 11:6–9 (NKJV) *“The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, The leopard shall lie down with the young goat, the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play by the cobra’s hole, and the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper’s den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.*