

Thoughts about Man in God's Image, Gen.1:26-27 NRSV, 1 pg

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²⁶ Then God said, Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth. ²⁷ So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. [see Gen.5:1-2; 9:6; 1 Cor.11:7; Jas.3:9]

Through the years scholars have speculated as to what exactly mankind being made in the image of God might be referring to. I suppose that because God is a trinity, such speculation sometimes takes the form of 3 things like body, soul, and spirit. And that image is usually described as connected to man's humanness so that when Adam disobeyed God, he still bore the image of God even as a fallen creature. We are still human and image bearers, though that image like everything else in the fallen world is marred. Francis Schaeffer says that *whether Christian or not, men manifest that they are image-bearers ... they assert their unique mannishness as men (p.267, Trilogy)*. He describes that image in terms of personality, love, and rational & logical thought, and communication (p.21, 47, **Genesis in Space and Time**). These are things that set us apart from the rest of the conscious creation. It is fitting that God's image bearer should have dominion over the other creatures he created.