

- I. Prologue: Creation of Heaven and Earth (1:1-2:3)
- II. The Toledoth of
  - 1) Heavens & Earth (2:4-4:26)
  - 2) Adam (5:1-6:8)
  - 3) Noah (6:9-9:29)
  - 4) Shem, Ham, and Japheth (10:1-11:9)
  - 5) Shem (11:10-26)

## A Glorious Humanity

Genesis 1-11 Part VII - Genesis 1:26-31

Stuart W. Bryan

### I. The Glory and Scum of the Universe

*"What kind of freak is man! What a novelty he is, how absurd he is, how chaotic and what a mass of contradictions, and yet what a prodigy! He is judge of all things, yet a feeble worm. He is a repository of truth, and yet sinks into such doubt and error. He is the glory and the scum of the universe!"* Pascal, *Pensees*

### II. To Display God's Glory

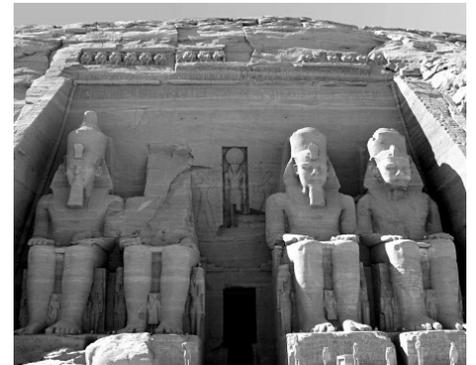
#### A. The Function of the Image

You exist to point to God, to display His \_\_\_\_\_ in the world, to stand as a beacon of God's control, presence, and authority; of his might and grandeur.

#### B. Desecrating the Image

*I met a traveller from an antique land  
Who said: "Two vast and trunkless legs of stone  
Stand in the desert. Near them, on the sand,  
Half sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown,  
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,  
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read  
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,  
The hand that mocked them and the heart that fed:  
And on the pedestal these words appear:  
'My name is Ozymandias, king of kings:  
Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!  
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay  
Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare  
The lone and level sands stretch far away."*

Shelley, *Ozymandias*



#### C. Restoring the Image (Dan 7; Col 3:8-11)

Jesus lives, dies, and rises again as a real man and His resurrection brings into the here and now the ability for all of us to be truly human. Jesus comes to restore in us the \_\_\_\_\_ of God; to make us real men, real women.

### III. The Image of God

So how is it that we as human beings remind others of God? What is it about us that points to the glory of God?

- God **created** the world, so man is a \_\_\_\_\_ being (cf. 1:1; 4:21-22); what God creates is **good**, so man makes **good** things out of those which he is given (2:11,12);
- God **speaks/communicates**, so man \_\_\_\_\_ both in word and in writing (cf. 1:3; 2:23);
- God **distinguishes** one thing from another, so man \_\_\_\_\_ the creatures of the earth (cf. 1:3-4; 2:19-20);
- God **rules** over all things, so man is created to exercise \_\_\_\_\_ over all the world (cf. 1:26, 28; 2:15); this includes exercising **authority** among men (cf. 3:16; 9:6; Ps 82:1ff; Ro 5:12);
- God is **love**, existing in eternal fellowship as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and so man \_\_\_\_\_ and lives in fellowship with others, especially in the bond of husband and wife (cf. 1:26-28; 2:24; 3:22; cf. 1 Jn 4:8);
- God **gives** freely to His creatures, so man practices \_\_\_\_\_ and open-handedness (cf. 1:29-30);
- God **rests** and enjoys the fruit of His labor, so man \_\_\_\_\_ the goodness of God and enjoys the fruit of his hands (cf. 2:2-3; 1 Kgs 4:25);
- God is **upright** and **holy**, so man \_\_\_\_\_ God and treats him as \_\_\_\_\_ (cf. 2:3; 2:16-17).

### IV. Conclusion