

“Conformed to the Image of His Son”:  
Image, Sonship, and the Christian Hope

Lecture 1: A Biblical Perspective on the Image of God

Crozet United Methodist Church  
Tuesday, March 20, 2007

<b>Day 7</b> God’s Rest of Rulership over Creation		
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Man, the image of God, ruling over the earth		
<b>Day 4</b> Sun and moon and stars ruling over day and night	<b>Day 5</b> Birds and sea creatures inhabiting sky and sea	<b>Day 6</b> Livestock and land animals inhabiting land
<b>Day 1</b> Division of light & darkness day and night created	<b>Day 2</b> Vertical division of waters Sky created	<b>Day 3</b> Horizontal division of waters Land created

**Genesis 1:26-28**

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." <sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. <sup>28</sup> God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

**9<sup>th</sup> Century B.C. Syrian Statue**



12 Image of Hadd-yisi  
13 King of Guzan... for exalting... his throne and for lengthening his life,  
14 and that the word of his mouth be good before the gods and the people.  
15 This likeness he made bigger than any before.  
16 Before Hadad, who dwells at Sikan, Lord of Habur, his image he has erected.

Text from D. Callender, *Adam in Myth and History*, p. 26-27.

## Psalm 8

A psalm of David. O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. <sup>2</sup> From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.

<sup>3</sup> When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, <sup>4</sup> what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? <sup>5</sup> You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. <sup>6</sup> You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: <sup>7</sup> all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field, <sup>8</sup> the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

<sup>9</sup> O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

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**Hebrews 2:4-11** <sup>5</sup> It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking. <sup>6</sup> But there is a place where someone has testified: "What is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?" <sup>7</sup> You made him a little lower than the angels; you crowned him with glory and honor <sup>8</sup> and put everything under his feet." In putting everything under him, God left nothing that is not subject to him. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to him. <sup>9</sup> But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. <sup>10</sup> In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering. <sup>11</sup> Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers.

**1 Corinthians 15:20-28** <sup>20</sup> But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup> For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. <sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. <sup>23</sup> But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. <sup>24</sup> Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. <sup>25</sup> For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup> The last enemy to be destroyed is death. <sup>27</sup> For he "has put everything under his feet." Now when it says that "everything" has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. <sup>28</sup> When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

**Ephesians 1:18 - 2:1** <sup>8</sup> I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, <sup>19</sup> and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, <sup>20</sup> which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup> And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

**Romans 8:28-29** <sup>28</sup> And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.