

with Dr. Greg Evans

5. What Nature Says About Our Nature and Its Makeover.

- At some stage, we all ask the question, “Who am I?”
- 2 main views: 1. Like angels (Shakespeare), or
2. Like other animals, but stand erect not bent (Philemon).
- Q: What does God’s word say about our status? Psalm 8:5
A: We are made a little lower than the angels.
- Q: What does it tell us about our heritage? Genesis 1:26,27
A: We are made in the image of God.
- We are created in the image of God in what we are: (physical, intelligent, rational, emotional, moral/ethical beings); and what we do (work, create, dominion, relationship, worship).
- Animals display one or more of the characteristics of humans, but they don’t manifest relationships like we do, nor worship God.

- Q: Do we still reflect that image perfectly? A: No! It is marred, but not obliterated.
- Q: What caused the image to become marred? Romans 5:12 A: Sin.
- Q: What is sin? 1 John 3:4 A: Breaking the law. It separates us from God.

- Q: What paradox does Paul describe concerning the image of God and our sinful nature? Rom 7:18-20,24a
A: He considered himself a “wretched man”, because wanted to do the right thing, but ended up doing the wrong thing.
- Q: What is Paul’s solution to this dilemma? Romans 7:24,25
A: Christ Jesus our Lord.
- Q: What is the penalty of sin? Rom 6:23. A: Death
- Q: What is God’s solution? John 3:16 A: God gave Jesus, His Son, to pay our debt for sin, and so the image of God in us can be restored.

- Q: What’s our part in this act of grace? John 1:12
A: To receive and believe in Jesus and His atoning offer. It’s free (Eph.2:8)
- Q: What is the first step in this? 2 Corinthians 3:18
A: By looking to (“beholding”) Jesus, i.e. by getting to know Him through His word, the Bible, and talking with Him in prayer.
- As you look to Jesus, 2 things happen. You discover:
 1. Who Jesus is
 - a. Your Forever Friend
 - b. Your Perfect Saviour
 2. Who you are:
 - a. You are created in the image of God, but that image has been marred by your sin;
 - b. You are in need of Jesus’ supernatural makeover to restore the image of God in you.
- Will you look to Jesus, the Sun of Righteousness, and accept Him as your personal Saviour, today?
- Next time: What Nature Says About The Signs Of The Times