



What is Man?
Psalm 8; Genesis 1:26-27
#1647 September 27, 2009 pm
Pastor Juan Sanchez

I. Introduction

- A. How should we view humanity?
- B. The doctrine of man (theological anthropology) has implications for . . .
 1. The sanctity of human life debate (racism, abortion, euthanasia . . .)
 2. The evolution/creation debate
 3. The male/female sexuality debate
 4. The environmental stewardship debate

II. Proposition

- A. We were created to glorify God by being like Him in certain ways.

III. Exposition

- A. **We were created to glorify God (Isaiah 43:5-7; Psalm 8:1-2).**
 1. So, this is the chief end of man, our purpose – to glorify God! But how do we glorify God?
- B. **We were created as the crown of God’s creation (Psalm 8:3-5).**
 1. We are NOT like the animals – we are unique (image bearers – Gen. 1:26-27).
- C. **We were created to glorify God by being like Him in certain ways (Psalm 8:6-8).**
 1. What does it mean to image God (Gen. 1:26-27)? To reflect His glory (as in a mirror).
 2. We are to image God in His communicable attributes: moral, mental, spiritual – imitate God!
 3. We are to image God in His relationality (Tri-unity) – God is social; we were not created to be alone (2:18).
 4. We are to image God in His vocation – dominion.
- D. **Sin has distorted God’s image in us but not destroyed it.**
 1. Sin has affected every aspect of our being: total depravity/radical corruption (Rom. 5:12).
 2. Yet, the image of God in man was not completely destroyed (Gen. 5:1-3).
 3. Yet because of the effects of sin, no one seeks after God (Rom. 3:9-23).

a. So, we are dead in our trespasses and sins (Ephesians 2:1-3).

E. Through Christ, the perfect man, God is restoring His marred image in us.

1. Jesus is the true crown of God's glory, becoming fully human and perfectly imaging God (Heb 1:1-4; 2:5-9).
2. Christ became like us, had to, in order to rescue us from the effects of the fall (Hebrews 2:14-18).
3. Now, through Christ, God is progressively restoring the divine image in us (2 Cor. 3:18; Rom. 8:29).
 - a. This is called progressive sanctification (see 2 Peter 1:3-4).
4. At the return of Christ, we shall fully bear the divine image (1 Cor. 15:49; 1 John 3:2).

IV. Implications: Let's look at four areas which are affected by our view of humanity (anthropology):

A. The sanctity of human life debate (Gen. 9:6; James 3:9) – we were created with human dignity and worth.

B. The evolution/creation debate – We were created for a future goal and hope.

C. Biblical manhood and womanhood – We were created to glorify God by fulfilling particular roles!

1. Definitions of masculinity, femininity – Piper, "Vision," 35-36.

AT THE HEART OF MATURE MASCULINITY IS A SENSE OF BENEVOLENT RESPONSIBILITY TO LEAD, PROVIDE FOR AND PROTECT WOMEN IN WAYS APPROPRIATE TO A MAN'S DIFFERING RELATIONSHIPS.

AT THE HEART OF MATURE FEMININITY IS A FREEING DISPOSITION TO AFFIRM, RECEIVE, AND NURTURE STRENGTH AND LEADERSHIP FROM WORTHY MEN IN WAYS APPROPRIATE TO A WOMAN'S DIFFERING RELATIONSHIPS.

D. Environmental stewardship – We were created to glorify God by caring for creation.

© 2008 High Pointe Baptist Church and Pastor Juan Sanchez - 12030 Dessau Rd, Austin Texas 78754

Permissions: You are permitted and encouraged to reproduce and distribute this material in any format provided that you do *not* alter the wording in any way, you do not charge a fee beyond the cost of reproduction, and you do not make more than 1,000 physical copies. For web posting, a link to this document on our website is preferred. Any exceptions to the above must be explicitly approved by High Pointe Baptist Church.

Please include the following statement on any distributed copy: By Juan Sanchez. © 2008 High Pointe Baptist Church.

Website: <http://www.hpbcglobal.org> Email: info@hpbcglobal.org Phone: 512.837.7725.