

SESSION 3: The Paradox of Man (Part 1): His Incomparable Dignity

Song Selection: TPH Psalm #46C *God is Our Refuge*

Scripture: Gen 1:26-27

Q: what was man made to be?

- Gen 1:26-27 Then God said, “Let us make man *in our image, after our likeness*. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” So God created man *in his own image, in the image of God he created him*; male and female he created them.
- WCF 4.1, 4.2, 9.1, 9.2, 26.3
- 4.1 It pleased God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, for the manifestation of the glory of his eternal power, wisdom, and goodness, in the beginning, to create or make of nothing the world, and all things therein, whether visible or invisible, in the space of six days, and all very good.
- 4.2 After God had made all other creatures, he created man, male and female, with reasonable and immortal souls, endued with knowledge, righteousness, and true holiness, *after his own image*, having the law of God written in their hearts, and power to fulfil it; and yet under a possibility of transgressing, being left to the liberty of their own will, which was subject unto change. . . .
- 9.1 God hath endued the will of man with that *natural liberty, that is neither forced nor by any absolute necessity of nature determined to good or evil*.
- 9.2 *Man, in his state of innocency, had freedom and power to will and to do that which is good and well-pleasing to God, but yet mutably, so that he might fall from it.*
- 26.3 This *communion* which the saints have with Christ, *doth not make them in any wise partakers of the substance of his Godhead, or to be equal with Christ in any respect*: either of which to affirm is impious and blasphemous. Nor doth their communion one with another, as saints, take away or infringe the title or propriety which each man hath in his goods and possessions.

1. Man is either something or nothing
2. What is the “*imago Dei*”?
3. Male and Female (and nothing else)
4. One blood, one race