

Evening Sermon Outline – September 3, 2017  
“Made by God, Quality” Psalm 119:73-80

I. *God created us –*

YOD. Your hands have made me ... (Psalm 119:73A NKJ)

1. *Not only did He create us, but He created human-beings in His image –*

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." <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. (Genesis 1:26-27 NKJ)

2. *This makes us more valuable than the animals –*

A. *They are given into our hand, even as food -*

So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth." <sup>2</sup> "And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast of the earth, on every bird of the air, on all that move *on* the earth, and on all the fish of the sea. They are given into your hand." <sup>3</sup> "Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs." <sup>4</sup> "But you shall not eat flesh with its life, *that is*, its blood.

B. *We are off limits for them, killing us has a penalty attached to it, the death penalty -*

<sup>5</sup> "Surely for your lifeblood I will demand *a reckoning*; from the hand of every beast I will require it, and from the hand of man. From the hand of every man's brother I will require the life of man." <sup>6</sup> "Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man. (Gen. 9:1-6 NKJ)

II. *God also “fashions” us –*

YOD. Your hands have made me and fashioned me; ... (Psalm 119:73 NKJ)

1. *This word fashion implies more than just creation, it is an additional thing.*

*This word, fashioned, combined with the personal pronoun “me” may change the meaning (context can change meaning) even of the word made ... A builder built my house, made it many years ago ... when I add new kitchen cabinets you might say I am fashioning it.*

*There is a sense God does this for everyone, every person is different, Pharaoh, though he was a man, whom God ultimately judged, was a unique man, with a personal personality ...*

2. *God’s people though are made and fashioned in a special way*

–  
For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth." <sup>18</sup> Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens. <sup>19</sup> You will say to me then, "Why does He still find fault? For who has resisted His will?" <sup>20</sup> But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed say to him who formed *it*, "Why have you made me like this?" <sup>21</sup> Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor? <sup>22</sup> *What* if God, wanting to show *His* wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, <sup>23</sup> and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory, (Romans 9:17-23 NKJ)

- A. *God had a special role for Pharaoh, however, he was still a vessel “of wrath prepared for destruction.”*
- B. *We, whether well known in this world or not are special if we are the vessels of mercy*
- C. *We are His, made by Him in a special way, for honor, rather than dishonor, for glory rather than destruction –*

Know that the LORD, He *is* God; *It is* He *who* has made us, and not we ourselves; *We are* His people and the sheep of His pasture. (Psalm 100:3 NKJ)

*As His sheep, we follow Him ---*

III. *We should cooperate with His fashioning –*  
YOD. Your hands have made me and fashioned me; Give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments. (Psalm 119:73 NKJ)

1. *He prays for understanding, in order to better obedience –*  
*We will be more obedient if we understand God creates and fashions us for a purpose, He even saves us for this purpose -*  
For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is the gift of God,*<sup>9</sup> not of works, lest anyone should boast.<sup>10</sup> For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. (Ephesians 2:8-10 NKJ)

2. *He knows when he is obedient he will have not only God's approval, but the approval of others who are God's people –*  
Those who fear You will be glad when they see me, Because I have hoped in Your word. (Psalm 119:74 NKJ)

A. *We have an important role in each other's fashioning and obedience –*  
And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,<sup>25</sup> not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.* (Hebrews 10:24-25 NKJ)

B. *We should rejoice in each other's spiritual success, as we also weep with those who weep –*  
Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. (Romans 12:15 NKJ)

3. *He knows God uses even trials in His fashioning –*  
I know, O LORD, that Your judgments are right, And *that* in faithfulness You have afflicted me. (Psalm 119:75 NKJ)

4. *Because he knows this he has learned to PRAY rather than complain –*

Let, I pray, Your merciful kindness be for my comfort, According to Your word to Your servant.<sup>77</sup> Let Your tender mercies come to me, that I may live; For Your law *is* my delight. (Psalm 119:76-77 NKJ)

Why should a living man complain, A man for the punishment of his sins? (Lamentations 3:39 NKJ)

IV. *The proud are both opposite of, and opposition to, the humble who cooperate with God's fashioning –*

Let the proud be ashamed, For they treated me wrongfully with falsehood; *But* I will meditate on Your precepts. (Psalm 119:78 NKJ)

V. *We should aim like the Psalmist does; to be resources and a refuge for the people of God –*  
Let those who fear You turn to me, those who know Your testimonies. (Psalm 119:79 NKJ) *However, first see verse :80, next point -*

VI. *In order to be such a resource, we must be right with God ourselves –*  
Let my heart be blameless regarding Your statutes, That I may not be ashamed. (Psalm 119:80 NKJ)

"Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. (Acts 20:28 NKJ)

*We cannot be right with God, by ourselves, we are only so by God's grace and prayer, that is why the Psalmist prays "Let my heart be blameless." This is not natural - "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. (Matthew 15:19 NKJ) but rather it is supernatural. Blameless, pure hearts which grow the fruit of the Spirit, require cultivation, grace, humility, remaking, refashioning – by God!*

*This is required, or even what we might do for other's will be worthless – Matthew 6:1-6; Matthew 23:15*

*Arnold A. Brevick*