

Apply The Word

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Message Info

Title:

His Image Crowned

Speaker:

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Date:

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Scriptures:

Genesis 1:24-31

Theme: God has crowned us with glory and honor should we not love his word?

Introduction: In Psalm 8, David reflects on the wonder of man as created by God. He writes that God “crowned us with glory and honor.” Mankind occupies an exalted state in God’s creation. Genesis is ground zero for understanding this state of mankind, and the important implications of it. At the end of Gen 1, we find a relationship between who God has made us to be and how we should then respond to him in his world.

We can consider these implications through 3 scenes:

1. The staging (24-25)

Days 1-5 have revealed God’s plan to form and fill spaces in his creation. Verses 24-25 show the continuation in Day 6, as the Lord fills the land with animals. Each animal is created “according to its kind,” thus showing both God’s clear intentions for his creatures and the impossibility of the arguments of evolution. The evolutionary argument is an example of paganism, which seeks to flatten out distinctions and to make everything one. Christianity, has many distinctions; most fundamentally—Creator-creature, but also human-animal and male-female.

2. The culmination (26-27)

Creation climaxes with the creation of man on Day 6. God created us in his image to rule over his creation and to stand in unique relationship to him. The creation of man is different: more deliberation and intentions are revealed, our divine purpose is announced beforehand, and his verdict is “very good.” The poetry of verse 27 is part of the exalted state of man. Nothing else in his creation is created in his image or created to exercise dominion.

3. The blessing (28-31)

Ultimately, Adam and Eve receive the privilege of hearing from the Lord directly. He speaks to them and reveals his purpose for their lives. He calls them to fill the earth, to subdue it, and to exercise dominion over it. That is the revealed purpose for humanity. He also calls it “very good,” granting a clear and affirmative verdict to all that he had made. As Adam and Eve listen to him, we see the proper human stance to God: we stand before him humbly, looking to him and seeking him for the way of life.

Questions:

1. How does being created in God’s image affect you?
2. How do you experience God’s purposes and pleasure in your life? What roles and responsibilities has he given you to fulfill?
3. How have the world’s lies and critiques affected how you relate to God and his world?