

Apply The Word

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THE CHRISTIAN IN A THERAPEUTIC WORLD

Message Info

Title:

Human Being

Speaker:

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Scriptures:

Various

Theme: Humans are created to image God, so look to increase his glory.

Introduction: Many people have a vision for what their life should look like (nice house, expensive vacations, zero worries, etc). While there is nothing wrong with some of these desires, the truth is that no one was created for their own vision of what their life looks like. Humans are created for something else—something far more glorious and purposeful than our own desires. We are created for the glory of God, which is the starting point and the end goal for the Christian. Humans have cast off this reality ever since the fall, but the words used to describe this casting off are new. The Therapeutic industry has added layers to this attempt to throw off God's rule, so Christians must be wise in identifying this tactic and wholeheartedly rejecting it.

Two truths are fundamental to understand the human in relation to God:

1. We (Humans) Are Embodied Souls

- Humans are made in such a way that we resemble God.
- Since God made us in his image, we are made with a clear purpose—to glorify him.
- Remarkably, when God who is spirit wanted to image himself, he made us with a body.
- In the Creation narrative, while God creates all things, he exhales life into only one creature: man (Gen 2:7).
- The Therapeutic industry treats the body as an uncreated thing, and its solutions are therefore without respect to the Creator.

2. We (Christians) Are Covenant Servants

- In the Garden of Eden, God expects Adam to fulfill his purpose of glorifying God.
- Adam's sin plunged all of mankind into the status of covenant breaker.
- The Last Adam, Jesus Christ, perfectly glorified God, and all who have faith in him are covenant keepers by virtue of his righteousness.
- The pride of our times is such that Science is our creator, evolution made us, we image nothing, and therefore we are bound to no one.

Questions:

1. How does your vision of life align with—or disagree with—God's vision?
2. Why does it matter that God made us as embodied souls?
3. How does the reality of a covenant relationship with God help you discern and reject the teachings of Therapeutic Psychology?