

NEW CREATION IMAGE

Numbers 6:24-26 "The Lord bless you and keep you! May the LORD make his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! May the Lord turn his face upon you and give you peace!"

Man was created in the image and glory of God - Genesis 1:26-28

God is one, but He revealed Himself with three different identities such as:

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Mt 3:16-17 "As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him. And behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Men and women were created in His image as one being but in three dimensions: spirit, soul and body.

We are a spirit

Our spirit is a part of us that is conscious of God, which has to do with the spiritual realm of the heart, it is the part of us that can have a relationship and friendship with God.

We have a soul

Our soul is our will, the part of us that has to do with the realm of the mind where our emotions, our feelings and our intellect reside. It is that part of us that thinks and feels.

We live in a body

Our body is the physical part of us, the house in which the our spirit and our soul live.

Just as the three identities of God are separate and distinct and yet are one God, so our spirit, soul, and body represent the true person that God created for us to exist.

When we receive Jesus Christ as our personal Savior and Lord, we become a new creature. We receive the seal of the new divine nature. It is the nature of God himself. There are parts of God's nature that are attributed to us at the moment of salvation and they are: Justice; Your Holiness; Love; Goodness, Grace and Mercy. Our spirit, recently regenerated, is perfect, it is the part of us that will live forever; It is the part that is aware of God's presence and that can have friendship with God and is made righteous as God is just. The body (bones, flesh and blood) and soul (will, intellect, and emotions) have not been completely changed, but the spirit has become new and perfect. The apostle Paul wrote some interesting words to the Philippians, "Accomplish your salvation." As new creatures, we no longer have to be conformed to this world; if we sin, our relationship with God remains intact, but our friendship with Him is broken. Sin always becomes a barrier between us and God, yet in His great grace, God has provided that our friendship with Him is immediately restored. John wrote:

1 Joh 1:8-10 "If we say that we are sinless, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar and his word is not in us.

We must live in an ongoing process of transformation as we become conformed to the image of the Son of God.

We begin the process of transformation by committing our bodies totally to God. Our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit, and we must present them as "a living sacrifice to God."

Our souls must be transformed by an ongoing process called the renewal of the mind.

This process of transformation takes place as we continually listen, meditate, believe, and act on God's Word. It is a supernatural work of the Holy Spirit.

Through this supernatural process, our bodies and souls become partakers of the divine nature.

As new creatures, we have been given many inalienable rights, but we can be deprived of them by an unscrupulous satan. We can find ourselves in a situation of suffering, without there being any need. Being a new creature does not guarantee that we will enjoy all of our spiritual blessings, but it does give us the legal right to claim them. In this world, Satan has usurped our rights as new creatures. God has given us spiritual weapons that we need to use.

The apostle Paul wrote that our weapons are not of this world, and that they have divine power to destroy strongholds.

There are two types of weapons: offensive and defensive. The sword of the Spirit, the Word of God is the offensive weapon and when we proclaim the Word of God by faith, the devil "must give up". He has no defense against this weapon. We must proclaim God's Word to circumstances that attempt to destroy us. As defensive weapons, however, we have all the parts that make up the complete armor of God to defend ourselves from the attacks of the enemy.

With the miracle of the new birth, we are born into God's family. As sons and daughters of God, we have become joint heirs with Jesus. Everything that belongs to Him is now ours, to be shared with Him. We are in Him, and because of our new position, we are blessed with all spiritual blessings, chosen, predestined, approved, sealed, and seated with Him. We were created in Christ to do His good works on this earth.

God by His true nature, is Love; It is the source of all love.

The greatest manifestation of God's love for mankind is in the gift of His precious Son and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Since the word "love" is often misinterpreted in the modern world, it would be good to know the four words used for love in the Greek language.

Eros is sensual love, it refers to the erotic love that God has established between husband and wife as described in the Song of Solomon. It is forbidden by God for it to manifest itself beyond an intimate expression of love between husband and wife.

1 Corinthians 7:5 "Do not deprive one another of one another except with one accord for a time to devote yourselves to prayer; and then come back together, so that Satan will not tempt you because of your incontinence.

Storgé is a non-sensual love, it is a family or emotional love.

Rom 12:10 In brotherly love, love one another tenderly; in honor, used with regard to one another.

It is the affection that family members show for one another, both in the natural family and in God's family.

Philia is the love of deep friendship or warm attachment to someone, it was used to describe the relationship of deep friendship between Jesus and Lazarus and the relationship of deep friendship between David and Jonathan. It is a special love limited to a few very close relationships between two people, very similar to a relationship between husband and wife.

Jom 2:23 Thus was fulfilled the Scripture which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned upon him as righteousness"; and he was called the friend of God.

Agape is the unconditional Love of God that manifested itself as a fruit of the Spirit in giving His Son Jesus Christ for His enemies. (R 5:8,10; Luke 23:34) Agape love is supernatural love. It is the love of God manifested by the Holy Spirit in our hearts, through our lives, and in our actions towards others. Because this love comes from God, it is a love that the world can only experience through the new creation. It is a love for our neighbor, our friends and enemies can seem so strange to the world and to our enemies.

1 Jn 3:16 By this we have come to know love, that he has given his love life for us; We too must give our lives for our brothers and sisters.

Eros is limited by God's laws toward our spouse.

Storgé is limited to our natural and spiritual family members.

Philia is limited to our spouse or a close personal friend.

God's Agape has no limits, it is shown to everyone, including our enemies. The new creatures, who are partakers of God's divine nature, will walk in God's agape love. As new creatures, we too have the nature of God's love. We too must love the lost of this world and share with them God's great love and compassion. By the Holy Spirit, we can and should love even those who are our enemies. Stephen was a great example of supernatural "agape" love, as he was stoned by his enemies. ([At 7:60](#)) The new creatures will continually glorify God for all His wonderful blessings; They will worship God for who He is; Praise to God will be continually on their lips and they will have a loving, deep and intimate relationship with God.

[2 Corinthians 13:13](#) "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." Amen.