

The Creation of Man (Part 1)

Genesis 1:26

Context: Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Moses writes the origins of the world and the nations. This was written to the people of Israel after they had departed Egypt and were wandering in the wilderness.

As you observe the creation of man...

A. _____ the Trinity's Role ("Let us make man in our image")

1. Christians have, throughout history, seen this passage as the very first reference in the Bible to the Trinity: that our creation is the result of one God who exists in the three persons of the Godhead - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
2. We certainly see the involvement of the Trinity in all of creation. In Genesis 1:1 - we have God the Father creating. In Genesis 1:2 - we see God the Spirit hovering over the waters. The New Testament identifies the Word of God in Genesis 1:3 as God the Son (John 1:1-2).

B. _____ the mystery of Human Origins ("Let us make man")

1. The Bible declares in full clarity our origins - that we were created by God. We are not a cosmic accident. We are not the product of random chance. We do not exist in a vacuum. We are designed and wonderfully made by a loving and powerful creator.
2. Because we are created by God - life has a purpose. Our existence has meaning. Life is a gift to be enjoyed and not to be a burden to be endured.

C. _____ the meaning of the "Image of God" ("in our image, after our likeness")

1. Being made in the Image of God separates mankind from all other living creatures. Humans are therefore not "animals."
2. "Man is a living being capable of embodying God's communicable attributes (cf. 9:6; Rom. 8:29; Col. 3:10; James 3:9). In his rational life, he was like God in that he could reason and had intellect, will, and emotion. In the moral sense, he was like God because he was good and sinless." (John MacArthur)