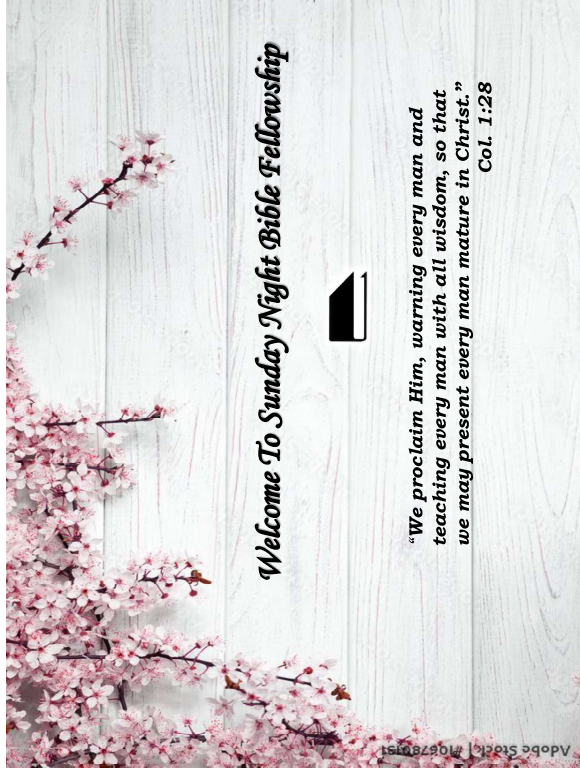




“Man’s Abilities and Responsibilities”

Gen. 1:26-31

April 13, 2025

Gen 1:26-31

26 Then God said, **"Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."**

27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

28 God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

29 Then God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you;

30 and to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to every thing that moves on the earth which has life, I have given every green plant for food"; and it was so.

31 God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

26 Then God said, *"Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."*

- Last time we covered 7 ways we were made in the image of God . . .

- 1. Intelligence.** Reason. Creative. Rational. Anytime someone invents a machine, writes a book, paints a landscape, enjoys a symphony, calculates a sum, or names a pet, he or she is proclaiming the fact that they are made in the image of God.
- 2. Morality.** Conscience. Whenever someone writes a law, recoils from evil, praises good behavior, or feels guilt, he or she is confirming the fact that they are made in the image of God.
- 3. Volition.** Ability to choose a course of action. Whenever someone gathers the facts, weighs the facts, deliberates, contemplates, makes a choice, chooses A over B, he or she is confirming the fact that they are made in the image of God.
- 4. Communication with language.** Able to impart thought through words. Whenever someone carries on a conversation with words, makes a phone call, sends a text or email to someone, prays, cries out to God, he or she is confirming the fact that they are made in the image of God.
- 5. Relationships.** With God. With others. Whenever someone expresses a need for friendship, dating, marriage, or community, hugs a child, attends church, he or she is confirming the fact that they are made in the image of God.
- 6. Personhood.** Dignity. Value. Self-worth. Whenever someone votes or verbalizes the right to life of the unborn, helps those who are poor and destitute, assists the elderly, he or she is confirming the fact that they are made in the image of God.
- 7. Representativeness.** Rulership through care and concern. Whenever someone tames an animal, cares for an animal, picks up trash in a park, trims a hedge, is not wasteful, uses resources wisely, he or she is confirming the fact that they are made in the image of God.

The Human Body

Ps 139:14

14 I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

- Greatest engineering project known to man.

Let's look at some facts –

- Laid end to end, an adult's blood vessels could circle Earth's equator nearly four times (97,000 miles).
- Information zooms along nerves at about 400 thousand mph.
- Scientists estimate that the nose can recognize a trillion different scents.
- The human body is made of a trillion cells.
- The human body has about 640 muscles.
- Our lungs contain 300 million balloon-like structures.
- A nose serves as a filter, heater, and also a humidifier.
- Whenever we eat something, the esophagus acts like a giant wave, moving food down to the stomach.
- A single square inch of skin has about 300 sweat glands to keep the body from over-heating.
- The body has 2.5 million sweat pores.
- Tooth enamel is harder than steel, iron, gold or silver. Second hardest substance in the world.

The Eye

- The eye is the most advanced camera in the world – instantly takes and develops 3D pictures, sends them immediately to the brain and never runs out of film.
- The eye can detect 10 million colors.
- The eye is made up of over 2 million working parts.
- The eye muscles are the fastest muscle in the body.
- To keep the eye lubricated, you will blink approximately 4,200,000 times in a single year.
- Your eyelashes keep dirt out of your eyes.
- Your eyebrows prevent sweat dripping into your eyes.
- Eyes are able to process 36,000 pieces of information in a single hour.

The Heart

- The average heart beats around 100,000 times per day. 2.6 billion times in a lifetime.
- The heart pumps approximately 1.5 gallons of blood per minute, or about 2,000 gallons per day.
- The heart generates enough energy to drive a car for 20 miles per day.
- The human body has over 60,000 miles of blood vessels, which the heart pumps blood through.
- The heart is located in the front of your chest, slightly behind and to the left of your breastbone. Your ribs offer extra protection for the heart.
- To make room for your heart, your left lung is slightly smaller than your right lung.

The Brain

- The brain is the seat of intelligence, interpreter of the senses, initiator of body movement, and controller of behavior.
- The brain contains approximately 86 billion neurons (nerve cells), each forming thousands of connections with other neurons, creating a complex network, which could add up to 1 quadrillion (1,000 trillion) connections.
- A piece of brain tissue the size of a grain of sand contains 100,000 neurons and 1 billion synapses.
- Despite making up only about 2% of the body's weight, the brain consumes about 20% of the body's energy and oxygen intake, even when at rest.
- The brain generates enough electricity to power a 25-watt lightbulb.
- Brain information can travel up to 350 miles per hour.
- The average brain is believed to generate up to 50,000 thoughts per day.
- Sixty percent of the human brain is made of fat, making it the fattiest organ in the human body. These fatty acids are crucial for your brain's performance.

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- Man, with his abilities, is now given 3 responsibilities:

1. Rulership.

- Rulership over animals-would take great skill, logic, reason, strength, and intelligence.
- Note that it is over all animals.
- Man would take on the role of governing God's animals – fish, birds, cattle, insects, alligators, beasts, and everything else.
- This is God's first act of delegating authority to man.

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2. Relationship.

- Adam will be responsible for another human being.
- This was not just another animal, but one who will be created in the image of God, just like him.

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n will have multiple implications, as

Adam will be greatly impacted by his failure to act in a

responsible manner.

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3. Reproduction.

- God's blessing on them would be found in their reproduction, and rulership.
- Adam and Eve were to fill the earth with people and have everything in subjection under them.

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- Rulership is going to require time and energy, Where does Adam and Eve get their food?

Vegetables

broccoli
cauliflower
chickpea
green bean

tomato
water chestnut
zucchini
arugula
asparagus
bok choy
brussels sprouts
celery
chard
chives
collard greens
endive
fennel
kale
leek
lettuce

spinach
watercress
carrot
garlic
ginger
horseradish
onion
potato
sweet potato
parsnip
radish
rutabaga
shallot
turnip

corn
cucumber
eggplant
lima bean
okra
olive
pea
peanuts
pepper
pumpkin
squash
beet

Fruit Trees

Apple
Cherry
Peach
Plum
Nectarine,
Pear
Almond
Fig
Apricot
Avocado
Mango
Olive
Oranges
Grapefruit
Banana
Kiwi
Kumquat
Lime
Lemon

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- What about the animals? What are they going to eat?
- God provides for them as well – plants.
- Before the Flood – no meat.

Gen 9:1-3

- 1 And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.
- 2 "The fear of you and the terror of you will be on every beast of the earth and on every bird of the sky; with everything that creeps on the ground, and all the fish of the sea, into your hand they are given.
- 3 "Every moving thing that is alive shall be food for you; I give all to you, as I gave the green plant.

Gen 1:26-31

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- So this completes the 6th day.
- God looked a His creation, and it was very good.

Dam

meh-ode

- def.** – especially, exceedingly, utterly, very
- It was not just good, it was exceedingly good.
 - Again, this is the completion of a 24-hour day.

Application

1. Are we thankful for the bodies God has given us?
2. God is a God of delegation. He gives us responsibility. Though we have little responsibility over the animals, God has given us great responsibility for:
 - evangelism.
 - our personal spiritual growth.
 - the spiritual growth of others.
 - our financial and material resources.
3. Do we give thanks for the abundance and variety of food God has given to us to enjoy?