

Then God said, "Let US make man in OUR image, in OUR likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea..." (Genesis 1:26)

a) Angels

b) Simply <u>language</u>... getting formal like the pronouncement of a decree

c) The TRIUNE God speaking/agreeing/affirming within the three persons of God's BEING that God would "create!"

Exactly HOW are we like God... in his image?

We **RESEMBLE** God... we "look" like God Ps. 8:5 "You have crowned him with glory and honor."

Mental – ability to reason and choose; appreciation and pursuit of beauty, ETC.

Moral – discernment of the right/wrong; conscience; justice, ETC.

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of man. (Ecc. 3:11)

What may be known about God is plain to them because God has made it plain. (Rom. 1:19)

Social – fellowship; love; need communication for fulfillment, ETC.

We REPRESENT God... standing in for God on the earth.

Ps. 8:6. "You have given him dominion over the works of your hands..."

We are given <u>responsibility</u> and <u>authorization</u> by God. We are invested with his interests and given his blessing to <u>manage</u> and <u>rule</u> on earth as he rules in heaven.

We **REFLECT** God... actually mirroring God to other folks.

11 Cor. 3:18. And we, who with unveiled faces, all reflect the Lord's glory..."

An image <u>communicates</u>. We are not simply God's likeness; we are God's likeness <u>here</u> where God is <u>not seen</u>.

FALL of MAN. Although God's image in man was **distorted**, it was not **destroyed**!

<u>CALL of CHRIST</u>. From the moment a person receives Christ, God begins the process of restoring his image by increasing our <u>knowledge</u> of him and our <u>desire</u> to be like him (Col. 3:10)