

B. Made in the image of God

1. God the Creator – He rules for relationship

- 1.1 All is created in God, for God; Man is central *Acts 17:22-31*
- a. Creation is necessarily within God vv.24,28
 - b. God is not dependent on us, but we are dependent on him v.25
 - c. The beginning had an end in view: v.26
many from one
times and places determined to bring about this end
 - d. The purpose of God's creative and sustaining activity is revealed v.27
totally dependent
yet real responsibility
 - e. All relate to God wrongly, by worshipping the image rather than the Creator v.22-23,29
religion and irreligion are both denials of the truth "in him we live and move..."
relationship with God as "the work of our hands" vs. "the work of His hands"
 - f. The failure of the many was never a threat to the fulfilment of God's plan v.30
 - g. God assured fulfilment through one appointed man v.31
- 1.2 God makes all subject to man, the man makes all subject to God
- a. Everything subjected to man by God Ps 8:3-8
 - b. Everything subjected to God by *the* man 1 Cor 15:21-28

2. God and His Image - the Ruler

- 2.1 God's rule over Creation *Genesis 1:1-2:3*
- a. The Spirit active, the Word spoken "Let there be..." 1:2,3, etc.
 - b. Rule expressed by naming "The Lord called..." 1:5,10, etc.
 - c. God forms (Days 1,2,3) and fills (Days 4,5,6)
 - d. God rests from creation work, enters (and remains?) in the day of blessing 2:1-3
- 2.2 Man's rule over Creation *Genesis 1,2*
- a. Rule by activity in the world, and by word 2:15
 - b. Rule expressed by naming "the man called..." 2:19
 - c. Rule by filling and forming the world 1:28
 - d. Has / has not entered God's rest? Creating / Saving works distinction Heb 4:1-10 *

3 God and His Image - the Relater

- 3.1 Order, Self-giving and Other-serving in God
- a. The Father gives the Son everything John 3:35; 5:20; 5:26
 - b. The Son loves to do the Father's will John 5:30; 8:28; 14:31
 - c. The Spirit loves to do other's will John 16:13
 - d. Profound relationship is the result John 16:15; 17:10; 10:15
- 3.2 Order, Self-giving and Other-serving in Humanity
- a. Equality of value presumed by their sameness Gen 2:18,20b-23
 - b. Order in relationship does not arise from intrinsic difference between men and women.
God sets up different roles by the order of creation and hearing Gen 2:15-18;20b-23
The serpent's deception of Eve requires her *not* hearing 1 Tim 2:11-14
The Lord's rebuke of Adam is premised on his *not* speaking
 - c. God-given order allows joyful self-giving & other-serving while maintaining equality
Husbands & Wives like Christ & the Church 1 Cor 11:3
Governing authorities are to serve and be obeyed Rom 13:1-5
 - d. Our Servant-King, our Bridegroom Rev 1:4-8; 21:5-7