

## BIB 100 Lecture Five

### Gen 1:26-2:4 “Man an image of God?”

By

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#### 1. Introduction

##### 1) Le miserable: Jean Baljang’s identity

A. What Jaber [and the world] tells him → Prisoner number 24601

B. He refuses to be called by number, but still does not repent.

C. Turning point of his change

Love of God expressed through the priest → Jean Baljang is no more. True repentance.

##### 2) The source of human problem: Crooked knowledge of God, the world, and man.

NRS 2 Corinthians 4:4 In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is **the image of God**.

##### 3) The question of human identity: Two popular lies

<i>Identity of man</i>	<i>Other Worldviews</i>	<i>Their Views</i>
Man is nothing.	Evolutionism	Evolved from material by chance without purpose or meaning.
	Hinduism or Buddhism	Reincarnation: No true distinction between animal and man.
		Karma: Problem in life → Fatalism. No hope
Man is a god	New Age – Shirley McLaine.	Their definition of divinity (Impersonal force). Total independence.
	Pantheism	No Creator-creature distinction.

#### 2. Biblical view of man<sup>1</sup>

##### 1) Historical context of the story of creation: Exodus Event

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<sup>1</sup> Here I am focusing on theological meaning of the human identity.

### A. Purpose: Correct Picture of God

The story of creation must be understood in its context. The purpose is to give us the correct picture of God, rather than the history of creation.

### B. Context: Exodus Events

#### a. Wide: Entire Bible

The principle of the Biblical Interpreter is to interpret it in the entire Biblical context.

#### b. Exodus event: The most important event recorded in the OT

a) The real beginning/root of Israel.

b) Deliverance from the bondage of slavery by God's mighty acts through Moses.

c) It is the counterpart of Calvary for the OT

#### c. Exodus as the context

a) The newly appointed leader of Exodus had to portray the God correctly to the people of Israel who might have given up hope of God's intervention in during the bondage of slavery for 430 years.

God is almighty.

God is intimately concerned with the lives of all creation.

b) So the leader gave the Book of Genesis as the springboard to launch a new history for Israel.

## 2) Theological meaning of Man's Identity: God

A. Two creation accounts show that mankind occupied the exalted position in God's creation accounts and that He is the God of creation. Man was created by God in His image. We must see everything theomorphically, not anthropologically.

### B. Image of God: Relationship with God and the World

#### a. God – man

a) Creator-creature distinction: Man is not a god, but an image of God!

b) Uniqueness of man as Image of God

- Man as the consummation of creation: Environment 1'st → Man last.
- Man as purpose of creation (Rom 8:29)
- Spirit of God

b. Man – World: God's representative! Man has dominion over all other creation

## 3. How shall man live then?

### 1) Man as an image of God

A. Know who you are in God: We are precious!!!

Physical and spiritual health.

Sexual discipline (1 Cor 6:16): Don't throw jewel into toilet!

NRS 1 Corinthians 6:16 Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." 17 But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.

## B. Imitate God

NRS Ephesians 5:1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children,

NRS Ephesians 1:11 In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, 12 so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.

a. Speak worthy of God's representative!

Power of human word as imaging God's word.

Use your tongue only for empowering, encouraging, edifying, and positive motivation to yourself, family, friends.... Blessing.

b. Show God's glory through our lives!

Sanctification: Personality (honesty, diligence, faithfulness) and behavior.

Grade too!

c. Use your resources [time, material...] in accord with your priority!

## 2) Towards God: Life of worship

A. Don't exalt yourself to God's position.

B. Man does not exist in his own right, but is solely dependent upon God. → Pray before you act!

C. God is the Object of our worship, not an object of critical enquiry.

## 3) Towards the World

A. Be the mindset of owner, not beggar! No idolatry!

B. Enjoy, but don't abuse them! Ecology.

C. Take care of them (Our stewardship). Science ←Need to study God's creation.

## 4) Towards other men

A. They too are images of God. They are precious!