

PRAYER MEETING: **In His Image**
Righteousness By Faith

Central Valley Deaf Ministries - Fresno Central SDA Church

Genesis 1:26

Genesis 1:26 NKJV

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

In Genesis 1:26, God says:

“Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...”

– Genesis 1:26

There are really two questions here: What does **“Our”** mean, and what does **“image”** mean?

1. Why does God say "Our"?

The Hebrew word for God here is **Elohim**, and God speaks in the plural: **"Let Us make... in Our image."**

From a Christian understanding, this fits naturally with the biblical revelation that **God is one, yet there is plurality within the Godhead**—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Genesis 1:26 NKJV

Then God said, "**Let Us** *[Father, Son, Holy Spirit]*
make man in Our *[Father, Son, Holy Spirit]*
image, according to **Our** *[Father, Son, Holy Spirit]*
likeness.

Genesis 1:27 NKJV

Genesis 1:27 NKJV

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

Notice what happens immediately afterward:

"So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him..."

– Genesis 1:27

Verse 26 says **"Our image,"** but verse 27 says **"His own image."**

That is significant: **plural language in verse 26, yet one God acting in verse 27.**

"...being transformed into the same image from glory to glory..."

– 2 Corinthians 3:18

2. What does “image” mean?

“Image” does **not primarily mean that humans physically look like God**. The Hebrew word *tselem* means an **image, representation, or likeness**.

Human beings *were created* to **represent**
God and **reflect** what God is like.

GOD

Love	-	1 John 4:8
Holy	-	1 Peter 1:15
Just	-	Deuteronomy 32:4
Good	-	Psalms 100:5
Spiritual	-	John 4:24
Righteous	-	Psalms 11:7
Right	-	Deuteronomy 32:4
Perfect	-	Matthew 5:48
Eternal	-	Deuteronomy 33:27
True	-	Deuteronomy 32:4

3. "Image" does not mean we are God

A mirror can reflect the sun, but **the mirror is not the sun.**

Likewise:

God → His character and purposes → humanity reflects them

We are created in **God's image**, but we are not God. God is the Creator; we are His creatures.

So you could summarize Genesis 1:26 this way:

"Our image" = God created human beings to represent Him and reflect His character.

And this connects beautifully with the subject you've been studying about **righteousness and God's character**: God's original purpose wasn't simply to create people who obey rules, but people whose lives **reflect what He is like—love, righteousness, justice, mercy, and grace.**

His Image = His Character

GOD

Love	-	1 John 4:8
Holy	-	1 Peter 1:15
Just	-	Deuteronomy 32:4
Good	-	Psalms 100:5
Spiritual	-	John 4:24
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Right	-	Deuteronomy 32:4
Perfect	-	Matthew 5:48
Eternal	-	Deuteronomy 33:27
True	-	Deuteronomy 32:4

LAW OF GOD

Love	-	Romans 13:10
Holy	-	Romans 7:12
Just	-	Romans 7:12
Good	-	Romans 7:12
Spiritual	-	Romans 7:14
Righteous	-	Psalms 119:172
Right	-	Psalms 19:8
Perfect	-	Psalms 19:7
Eternal	-	Psalms 111:7,8
True	-	Psalms 119:151

GOD	
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1 John 4:8 NKJV

He who does not love does not know God,
for God is **love**.

1 Peter 1:15 NKJV

But as He who called you *is* **holy**, you also be **holy** in all *your* conduct,

Deuteronomy 32:4 KJV

He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, **just** and right is he.

Psalms 100:5 NKJV

For the Lord *is* **good**;
His mercy *is* everlasting,
And His truth *endures* to all generations.

John 4:24 NKJV

God *is* **Spirit**, and those who worship Him must **worship in spirit** and truth.”

Psalms 11:7 NKJV

For the Lord *is* **righteous**,
He loves righteousness;
His countenance beholds the upright.

Matthew 5:48 NKJV

Be ye therefore **perfect**, even as your Father which is in heaven is **perfect**.

Deuteronomy 33:27 KJV

The **eternal** God *is your* refuge,
And underneath *are* the everlasting arms;
He will thrust out the enemy from before you,
And will say, 'Destroy!'

Deuteronomy 32:4 KJV

He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of **truth** and without iniquity, just and right is he.

Romans 13:10 NKJV

Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore
love *is* the fulfillment of the law.

Romans 7:12 NKJV

Therefore the law *is* **holy**, and the
commandment **holy** and **just** and **good**.

Romans 7:14 NKJV

For we know that the law is **spiritual**, but I am carnal, sold under sin.

Psalms 119:172 NKJV

My tongue shall speak of Your word,
For all Your commandments *are*
righteousness.

Psalms 19:8 NKJV

The statutes of the Lord *are* **right**,
rejoicing the heart;

The commandment of the Lord *is* pure,
enlightening the eyes;

Psalms 19:7 NKJV

The law of the Lord *is* **perfect**,
converting the soul;
The testimony of the Lord *is* sure,
making wise the simple;

Psalms 111:7-8 KJV

The works of His hands *are* verity and justice;

All His precepts *are* sure.

8 They stand fast **forever and ever**,

And are done in truth and uprightness.

Psalms 119:151 NKJV

You *are* near, O Lord,
And all Your commandments *are* **truth**.