

How does scripture describe that mankind was created in the image of God?

Genesis 1:26, "God said, "Let Us make mankind 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."

Genesis 2:7, "The LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being."

Genesis 1:27, "God created mankind in His *own* image; in the image of God He created them; male and female He created them."

What's more?

Ecclesiastes 3:11, "Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end."

As such:

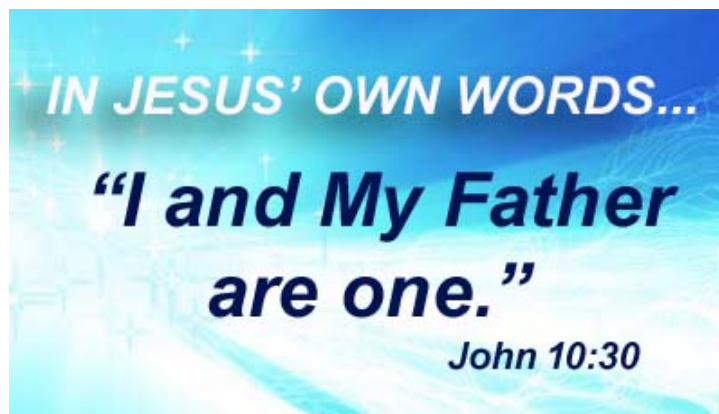
John 1:1-3, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made."

Therefore:

1 Corinthians 15:49, "As we have borne the image of the *man* of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man."

Knowing that I have been created in the image of God, how much do I seek to know God and live in His likeness?

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Who is the image of God?

Speaking of Christ the apostle Paul said:

Colossians 1:15-17, “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.”

Colossians 2:9, “In Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.”

In Jesus' own words:

John 6:38, “I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.”

John 8:50, “And I do not seek My *own* glory; there is One who seeks and judges.”

John 14:10, “The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own *authority*; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.”

John 5:19, “Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.”

The purpose being:

1 John 4:9, “In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.”

Do I believe and stand by the Word of God, that Christ is the pure image of God?

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How is the power of God evidenced through Christ?

Colossians 2:9-10, “In Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.”

John 1:3, “All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.”

John 3:13, “No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, *that is*, the Son of Man who is in heaven.”

What’s more?

1 Timothy 2:5, “There is one God and one Mediator between God and men, *the* Man Christ Jesus.”

John 3:35-36, “The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand. He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”

The purpose being:

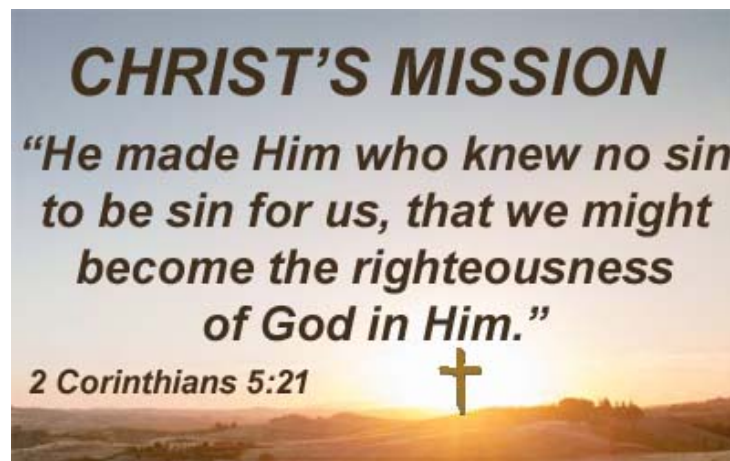
Philippians 2:10-11, “That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Therefore and in Jesus’ own words:

John 11:25, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.”

Do I abide in Christ, so that the power of God to a renewed life is evident in my life?

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For what purpose did Christ, the image of God, come to this earth?
John 3:16, "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Why?

Romans 3:23, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

John 3:17, "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."

Acts 4:12, "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

What's more?

Ephesians 2:4-6, "God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ, and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus."

As a result:

2 Corinthians 5:17, "If anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

John 17:3, "This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent."

Therefore:

1 Peter 1:13, "Gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest *your* hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

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**“And you know
that He was manifested
to take away our sins, and
in Him there is no sin.”**

1 John 3:5

How is Christ, the very image of God, defined as without sin?

Hebrews 4:15, “We do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are*, yet without sin.”

God’s purpose being:

2 Corinthians 5:21, “He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

1 Peter 1:18-19, “You were not redeemed with corruptible things, *like* silver or gold, from your aimless conduct *received* by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”

1 Peter 2:24, “Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness.”

As such:

1 Peter 2:21-22, “For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: “Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth.”

Therefore:

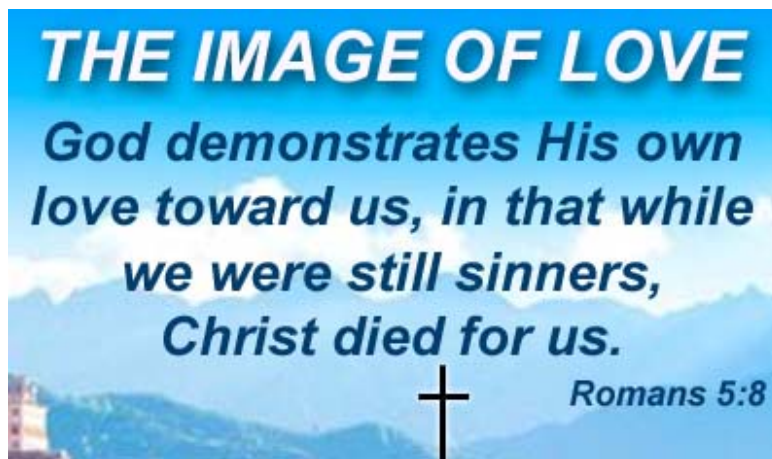
1 John 3:3, “Everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.”

What’s more?

1 John 2:1, “And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.”

How focused am I on living to abide in Christ, and to reject temptations for sin?

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To what extent did God demonstrate His love for mankind?

John 3:16, "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

As such:

John 3:17, "God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."

John 15:13, "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends."

Romans 5:8, God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

What's more?

1 John 4:16, "God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him."

Therefore:

Ephesians 5:2, "Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

The purpose being:

Ephesians 3:17-19, "That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

How obvious is the image of God's love reflected in my life?

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THE IMAGE OF HUMILITY

**“Let this mind be in you
which was also in Christ Jesus,
who, being in the form of God,
did not consider it robbery
to be equal with God.”**

Philippians 2:5-6

How did Christ teach us humility, and as such set the example as to how we must live?

Philippians 2:5-8, “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but He made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross.”

As such:

Hebrews 12:2, “Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Therefore:

Romans 12:3, “I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of* himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.”

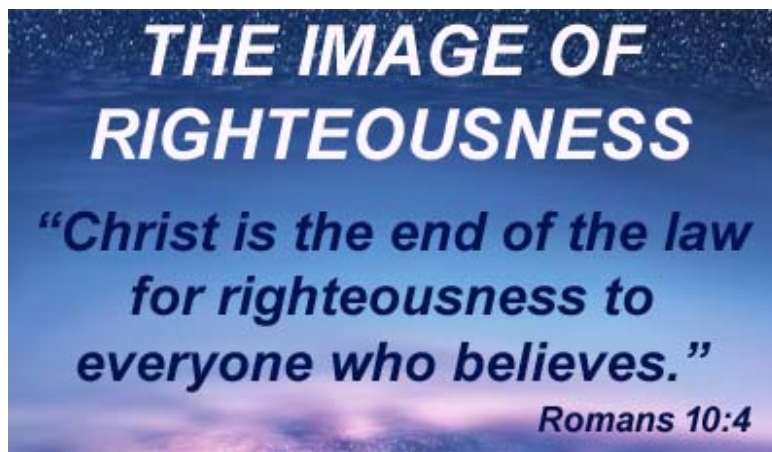
What’s more?

Colossians 3:12, “As *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering.”

And in Jesus’ own words:

Matthew 11:29, “Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

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How is the righteousness of God demonstrated in Christ Jesus?

2 Corinthians 5:21, “He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

As such:

Romans 5:17, “If by the one man’s offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.”

What’s more?

1 John 2:29, “If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him.”

The reason the apostle Paul said:

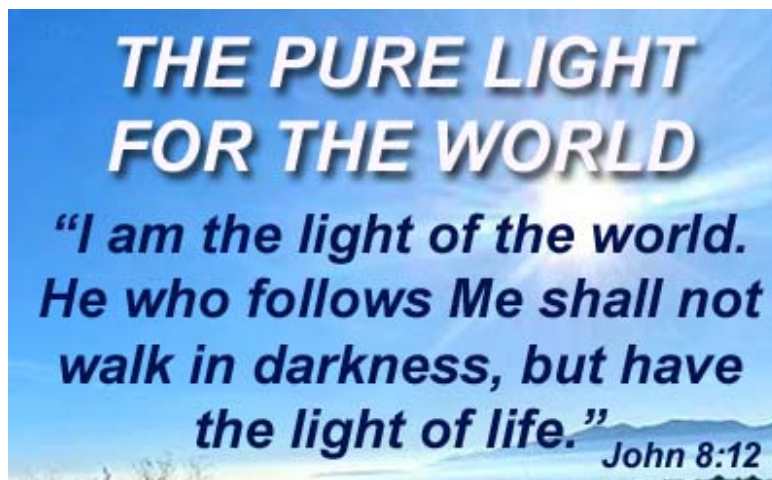
Philippians 3:8-9, “I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith.”

Therefore:

1 Timothy 6:11, “But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness.”

Ephesians 4:24, “Put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.”

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How is Christ the Light of the world?

2 Corinthians 4:6, "For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ."

As such:

1 John 1:5, "This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all."

In Jesus' own words:

John 12:46, "I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness."

What's more?

John 3:20-21, "Everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

As such:

2 Corinthians 3:18, "We all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."

Therefore:

Ephesians 5:8, "You were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light."

Matthew 5:16, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

How brightly does the light of Christ shine through me right now?

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THE IMAGE OF PEACE

*Peace I leave with you,
My peace I give to you;
not as the world gives do I give
to you. Let not your heart be
troubled, neither let it be afraid.*

John 14:27

How is Christ the image of peace in God?

Isaiah 9:6, "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

As such Jesus said:

John 16:33, "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

Matthew 5:9, "Blessed *are* the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

As such:

Romans 5:1, "Having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

What's more?

Isaiah 26:3, "You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You."

Therefore:

Colossians 3:15, "Let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful."

Hebrews 12:14, "Pursue peace with all *people*, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord."

How strongly do I pursue peace with people so as to truly abide in Christ?

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How is the power of Christ enabled in the life of a believer?

Galatians 2:20, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

The purpose being:

Ephesians 3:16, "That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man."

As such:

2 Timothy 1:7, "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

Psalms 73:26, "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."

How must we live so as to abide in Christ, no matter the circumstances of life?

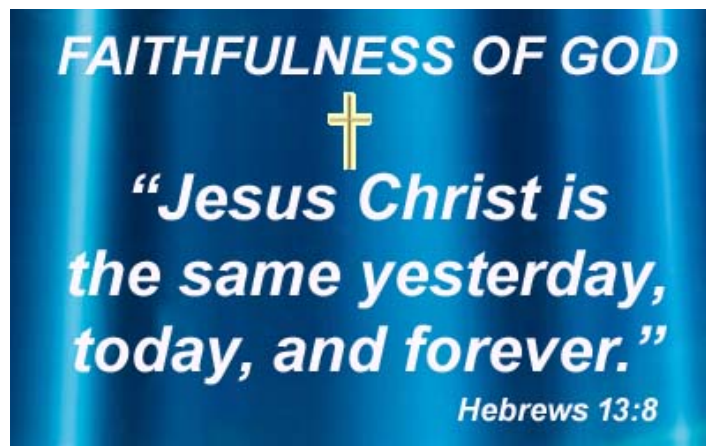
Ephesians 6:11-12, "Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*."

Therefore:

Joshua 1:9, "Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God *is* with you wherever you go."

1 Corinthians 16:13, "Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong."

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How faithful is God to stand by His Word in all circumstances?

Deuteronomy 7:9, "Know that the LORD your God, He *is* God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments."

2 Thessalonians 3:3, "The Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard *you* from the evil one."

As such:

1 Corinthians 1:9, "God *is* faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord."

What's more?

2 Timothy 2:13, "If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself."

In Jesus' own words:

Revelation 3:5, "He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels."

John 14:15, "If you love Me, keep My commandments."

Revelation 2:10, "Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life."

Therefore:

Galatians 5:1, "Stand fast in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage."

Hebrews 10:23, "Let us hold fast the confession of *our* hope without wavering, for He who promised *is* faithful."

How faithful am I to hold fast my confession of belief in Christ, and live to abide in His word?

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