Emancipating Greatness: You Were Made for Something Great Pastor Johnson Bowie January 10, 2021

Emancipating Greatness

Genesis 1:27 NLT

So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of **God** he created them; male and female he created them.

Psalm 139:13-18 TPT

You formed my innermost being, shaping my delicate inside and my intricate outside, and wove them all together in my mother's womb. I thank you, God, for making me so mysteriously complex! Everything you do is marvelously breathtaking. It simply amazes me to think about it! How thoroughly you know me, Lord! You even formed every bone in my body when you created me in the secret place, carefully, skillfully shaping me from nothing to something. You saw who you created me to be before I became me! Before I'd ever seen the light of day, the number of days you planned for me were already recorded in your book. Every single moment you are thinking of me! How precious and wonderful to consider that you cherish me constantly in your every thought! O God, your desires toward me are more than the grains of sand on every shore! When I awake each morning, you're still with me.

Genesis 9:6 NIV

"Whoever sheds human blood, by humans shall their blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made mankind."

"You should do good to and pay honor and reverence to man, who is made in the image of God ... minister food to the hungry, drink to the thirsty, clothing to the naked, hospitality to the stranger, and necessary things to the prisoner; and that is what will be regarded as truly bestowed upon God." – Clement of Rome, 1st Century A.D.

Genesis 1:28 NLT

Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."

<u>IMAGE</u> = Tselem, *Hebrew*; Eikon, *Greek*

Daniel 3:1 NIV

King Nebuchadnezzar made an **image** [TSELEM] of gold, sixty cubits high and six cubits wide, and set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon.

2 Corinthians 4:7 NIV

But we have this treasure in **jars of clay** to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

We were made to shine God's image so that others would see us and remember who the King is!

Colossians 1:15 NLT

Christ is the **visible image** of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation ...

"Some people read the Bible as though all the important stuff runs from Genesis 3 (where humans fall into sin) to Revelation 20 (John's vision of the last judgment where humans are judged). They tend to reduce the biblical story to God's attempt to deal with individuals' guilt so that when they die and face their own individual "last judgment", they can go to heaven. But this ignores the way the Bible actually begins and ends. The Bible begins with God taking great care to create the physical world as His cosmic sanctuary or temple to become what we might call a "theater of his glory." This is a world he calls "good" over and over at the beginning of the Bible in Genesis 1. The Bible then ends with Revelation 21-22, with God "making all things new" (21:5). It ends with God's good creation made new, with creation reaching its intended destiny and flourishing with abundant life." – Andy Johnson

Jesus came so we could bear God's image again!

Romans 8:29-30 NIV

For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 NLT

For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is **freedom**. So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—**makes** us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.

Jesus came to EMANCIPATE GOD'S GREATNESS IN US!

Emancipation: to free from restraint, control, or the power of another; especially: to free from bondage.

Emancipating Greatness is about getting what God put IN you OUT of you!

"Dreadful will be the day when the world becomes contented, when one great universal satisfaction spreads itself over the world. Sad will be the day for every man when he becomes absolutely contented with the life that he is living, with the thoughts that he is thinking, with the deeds that he is doing, when there is not forever beating at the doors of his soul some great desire to do something larger which he knows that he was meant and made to do because he is a child of God." – *Phillips Brooks*

Ephesians 2:10 NLT

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

Ephesians 4:1 NIV

... I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream." — $C.S.\ Lewis$

I BELIEVE A GREAT GOD MADE ME FOR GREAT THINGS!