

# Man in God's Image

Man is created in the image of God. But what is that image? Is it our physical appearance, or is it the immaterial aspects of our being? Is it a similarity of figure, or a similarity of mind and emotions?

## Key Verse

**Genesis 1:26** And God said, Let us make man in our **image**, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

27 So God created man in his own **image**, in the **image** of God created he him; male and female created he them.

God has created all of the animals, but he will now create man. He will not simply let the earth bring him forth. But he has a particular design for him, for he will have dominion over all of the other creatures. So God will make man in his own image. It is a fitting image for him who has the dominion.

But that there be no confusion, he yet created him both male and female. That is, though made in the image of God, yet he is male and female, though God is not.

Image here is paralleled with "likeness."

## Image

What is an image?

## Adam

Genesis 5:3 And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own **likeness**, after his **image**; and called his name Seth:

It may be that Seth was very similar in appearance to his father. It may also be that this is only said to convey that man reproduced after his kind, that no loss to the created image resulted from the fall. (!)

## God

Genesis 9:6 Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the **image** of God made he man.

Little further is contributed here, beyond the implication that man still retains the image of God, in which he was made.

1 Corinthians 11:7 For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the **image** and **glory** of God: but the woman is the **glory** of the man.

This could be taken to imply that the woman is not the image and glory of God. However, this is not what is said. Rather, the woman's glory (though not her image) is in reference to man, rather than God. God made man male and female in his image, so we both bear his image and glory.

Yet, it does seem that man has been given a fuller measure of, and duty to reflect, the image of God. The uniquely female attributes contribute more to her figure than do the male attributes to that of a man. As such, since God does not have these attributes, the female is less a perfect likeness of his image. But, she is created in his image not to his glory, but for the glory of the man. The man, however, being endued with God's image especially, is not to obscure that image. He is to reflect God's image, to God's glory.

## Idols

Exodus 20:4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven **image**, or any **likeness** of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

Leviticus 26:1 Ye shall make you no idols nor graven **image**, neither rear you up a standing **image**, neither shall ye set up any **image** of stone in your land, to bow down unto it: for I am the LORD your God.

Deuteronomy 4:16 Lest ye corrupt yourselves, and make you a graven **image**, the **similitude of any figure**, the **likeness** of male or female,

Deuteronomy 4:23 Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of the LORD your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven **image**, or the **likeness** of any thing, which the LORD thy God hath forbidden thee.

Deuteronomy 4:25 When thou shalt beget children, and children's children, and ye shall have remained long in the land, and shall corrupt yourselves, and make a graven **image**, or the **likeness** of any thing, and shall do evil in the sight of the LORD thy God, to provoke him to anger:

Deuteronomy 5:8 Thou shalt not make thee any graven **image**, or any **likeness** of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth:

Deuteronomy 9:12 And the LORD said unto me, Arise, get thee down quickly from hence; for thy people which thou hast brought forth out of Egypt have corrupted themselves; they are quickly turned aside out of the way which I commanded them; they have made them a molten **image**.

Deuteronomy 16:22 Neither shalt thou set thee up any **image**; which the LORD thy God hateth.

Deuteronomy 27:15 Cursed be the man that maketh any graven or molten **image**, an abomination unto the LORD, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and putteth it in a secret place. And all the people shall answer and say, Amen.

Judges 17:3 And when he had restored the eleven hundred shekels of silver to his mother, his mother said, I had wholly dedicated the silver unto the LORD from my hand for my son, to make a graven **image** and a molten **image**: now therefore I will restore it unto thee.

Judges 17:4 Yet he restored the money unto his mother; and his mother took two hundred shekels of silver, and gave them to the founder, who made thereof a graven **image** and a molten **image**: and they were in the house of Micah.

Judges 18:14 Then answered the five men that went to spy out the country of Laish, and said unto their brethren, Do ye know that there is in these houses an ephod, and teraphim, and a graven **image**, and a molten **image**? now therefore consider what ye have to do.

Judges 18:17 And the five men that went to spy out the land went up, and came in thither, and took the graven **image**, and the ephod, and the teraphim, and the molten **image**: and the priest stood in the entering of the gate with the six hundred men that were appointed with weapons of war.

Judges 18:18 And these went into Micah's house, and fetched the carved **image**, the ephod, and the teraphim, and the molten **image**. Then said the priest unto them, What do ye?

Judges 18:20 And the priest's heart was glad, and he took the ephod, and the teraphim, and the graven **image**, and went in the midst of the people.

Judges 18:30 And the children of Dan set up the graven **image**: and Jonathan, the son of Gershom, the son of Manasseh, he and his sons were priests to the tribe of Dan until the day of the captivity of the land.

Judges 18:31 And they set them up Micah's graven **image**, which he made, all the time that the house of God was in Shiloh.

2 Kings 3:2 And he wrought evil in the sight of the LORD; but not like his father, and like his mother: for he put away the **image** of Baal that his father had made.

2 Kings 10:27 And they brake down the **image** of Baal, and brake down the house of Baal, and made it a draught house unto this day.

2 Kings 21:7 And he set a graven **image** of the grove that he had made in the house, of which the LORD said to David, and to Solomon his son, In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all tribes of Israel, will I put my name for ever:

2 Chronicles 33:7 And he set a carved **image**, the idol which he had made, in the house of God, of which God had said to David and to Solomon his son, In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen before all the tribes of Israel, will I put my name for ever:

Psalms 106:19 They made a calf in Horeb, and worshipped the molten **image**.

Isaiah 40:19 The workman melteth a graven **image**, and the goldsmith spreadeth it over with gold, and casteth silver chains.

Isaiah 40:20 He that is so impoverished that he hath no oblation chooseth a tree that will not rot; he seeketh unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven **image**, that shall not be moved.

Isaiah 44:9 They that make a graven **image** are all of them vanity; and their delectable things shall not profit; and they are their own witnesses; they see not, nor know; that they may be ashamed.

Isaiah 44:10 Who hath **formed** a god, or molten a graven **image** that is profitable for nothing?

Isaiah 44:15 Then shall it be for a man to burn: for he will take thereof, and warm himself; yea, he kindleth it, and baketh bread; yea, he maketh a god, and worshipping it; he maketh it a graven **image**, and falleth down thereto.

Isaiah 44:17 And the residue thereof he maketh a god, even his graven **image**: he falleth down unto it, and worshipping it, and prayeth unto it, and saith, Deliver me; for thou art my god.

Isaiah 45:20 Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, ye that are escaped of the nations: they have no knowledge that set up the wood of their graven **image**, and pray unto a god that cannot save.

Isaiah 48:5 I have even from the beginning declared it to thee; before it came to pass I shewed it thee: lest thou shouldest say, Mine idol hath done them, and my graven **image**, and my molten **image**, hath commanded them.

Jeremiah 10:14 Every man is brutish in his knowledge: every founder is confounded by the graven **image**: for his molten **image** is falsehood, and there is no breath in them.

Jeremiah 51:17 Every man is brutish by his knowledge; every founder is confounded by the graven **image**: for his molten **image** is falsehood, and there is no breath in them.

Ezekiel 8:3 And he put forth the form of an hand, and took me by a lock of mine head; and the spirit lifted me up between the earth and the heaven, and brought me in the visions of God to Jerusalem, to the door of the inner gate that looketh toward the north; where was the seat of the **image** of jealousy, which provoketh to jealousy.

Ezekiel 8:5 Then said he unto me, Son of man, lift up thine eyes now the way toward the north. So I lifted up mine eyes the way toward the north, and behold northward at the gate of the altar this **image** of jealousy in the entry.

Daniel 3:1 Nebuchadnezzar the king made an **image** of gold, whose height was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.

Daniel 3:2 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the **image** which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

Daniel 3:3 Then the princes, the governors, and captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, were gathered together unto the dedication of the **image** that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the **image** that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

Daniel 3:5 That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the golden **image** that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up:

Daniel 3:7 Therefore at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and all kinds of musick, all the people, the nations, and the languages, fell down and worshipped the golden **image** that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

Daniel 3:10 Thou, O king, hast made a decree, that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, shall fall down and worship the golden **image**:

Daniel 3:12 There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden **image** which thou hast set up.

Daniel 3:14 Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden **image** which I have set up?

Daniel 3:15 Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the **image** which I have made; well: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?

Daniel 3:18 But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden **image** which thou hast set up.

Hosea 3:4 For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an **image**, and without an ephod, and without teraphim:

Nahum 1:14 And the LORD hath given a commandment concerning thee, that no more of thy name be sown: out of the house of thy gods will I cut off the graven **image** and the molten **image**: I will make thy grave; for thou art vile.

Habakkuk 2:18 What profiteth the graven **image** that the maker thereof hath graven it; the molten **image**, and a teacher of lies, that the maker of his work trusteth therein, to make dumb idols?

Acts 19:35 And when the townclerk had appeased the people, he said, Ye men of Ephesus, what man is there that knoweth not how that the city of the Ephesians is a worshipper of the great goddess Diana, and of the **image** which fell down from Jupiter?

Romans 1:23 And changed the **glory** of the uncorruptible God into an **image** made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

Romans 11:4 But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the **image** of Baal.

Revelation 13:14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an **image** to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

Revelation 13:15 And he had power to give life unto the **image** of the beast, that the **image** of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the **image** of the beast should be killed.

Revelation 14:9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his **image**, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,

Revelation 14:11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his **image**, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

Revelation 15:2 And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his **image**, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

Revelation 16:2 And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his **image**.

Revelation 19:20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his **image**. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Revelation 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his **image**, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

Graven image (26x), molten image (13x), standing image (1x), image of stone (1x), carved image (2x), image of Baal (3x), image of jealousy (2x), image of gold (1x), golden image (6x), image of the beast (3x).

An image in every case is the 3D figure of a man or some other living creature.

## Statues

1 Samuel 19:13 And Michal took an **image**, and laid it in the bed, and put a pillow of goats' hair for his bolster, and covered it with a cloth.

1 Samuel 19:16 And when the messengers were come in, behold, there was an **image** in the bed, with a pillow of goats' hair for his bolster.

A 3 dimensional form. Perhaps a statue.

2 Chronicles 3:10 And in the most holy house he made two cherubims of **image** work, and overlaid them with gold.

These were large statues of Cherubs.

Daniel 2:31 Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great **image**. This great **image**, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the **form** thereof was terrible.

Daniel 2:32 This **image's** head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass,

Daniel 2:34 Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the **image** upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.

Daniel 2:35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the **image** became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

This image was a figure of a man, a statue composed of 5 different substances.

## Dreams

Job 4:12 Now a thing was secretly brought to me, and mine ear received a little thereof.

13 In thoughts from the visions of the night, when deep sleep falleth on men,

14 Fear came upon me, and trembling, which made all my bones to shake.

15 Then a **spirit** passed before my face; the hair of my flesh stood up:

16 It stood still, but I could not discern the **form** thereof: an **image** was before mine eyes, there was silence, and I heard a voice, saying,

He could not discern the form of this spirit, but yet when it passed before his face, he knew that there was an image before his eyes. He could not fully discern its shape, but he heard it speak.

The image is the figure of the spirit.

Psalms 73:20 As a dream when one awaketh; so, O Lord, when thou awakest, thou shalt despise their **image**.

Just as that seen in a dream is not, so they will not be.

In these two verses image could be interpreted as 2 dimensional, but need not be necessarily.

## Coins

Matthew 22:20 And he saith unto them, Whose is this **image** and superscription?

Mark 12:16 And they brought it. And he saith unto them, Whose is this **image** and superscription? And they said unto him, Caesar's.

Luke 20:24 Shew me a penny. Whose **image** and superscription hath it? They answered and said, Caesar's.

Caesar's person was portrayed on the coin. Although we might think of it as 2 dimensional, this is usually actually 3 dimensional, if not in full proportion of relief.

## Christ

Romans 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be **conformed** to the **image** of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Brethren often share a similarity of appearance. In this case, it is brethren almost as in a distinct race.

1 Corinthians 15:49 And as we have borne the **image** of the earthy, we shall also bear the **image** of the heavenly.

In context, it becomes clear:

1 Corinthians 15:35 But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what **body** do they come?

36 Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:

37 And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that **body** that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain:

38 But God giveth it a **body** as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own **body**.

39 All **flesh** is not the same **flesh**: but there is one kind of **flesh** of men, another **flesh** of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds.

40 There are also celestial **bodies**, and **bodies** terrestrial: but the **glory** of the celestial is one, and the **glory** of the terrestrial is another.

41 There is one **glory** of the sun, and another **glory** of the moon, and another **glory** of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in **glory**.

42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:

43 It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power:

44 It is sown a natural **body**; it is raised a spiritual **body**. There is a natural **body**, and there is a spiritual **body**.

45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living **soul**; the last Adam was made a quickening **spirit**.

46 Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.

47 The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven.

48 As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.

49 And as we have borne the **image** of the earthy, we shall also bear the **image** of the heavenly.

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Thus, the image of the earthy is the physical body, the image of the heavenly is the spiritual body.

2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the **glory** of the Lord, are changed into the same **image** from **glory** to **glory**, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

In context:

2 Corinthians 3:6 Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

7 But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was **glorious**, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the **face** of Moses for the **glory** of his countenance; which **glory** was to be done away:

8 How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather **glorious**?

9 For if the ministration of condemnation be **glory**, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in **glory**.

10 For even that which was made **glorious** had no **glory** in this respect, by reason of the **glory** that excelleth.

11 For if that which is done away was **glorious**, much more that which remaineth is **glorious**.

12 Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech:

13 And not as Moses, which put a vail over his **face**, that the children of Israel could not stedfastly look to the end of that which is abolished:

14 But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ.

15 But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart.

16 Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away.

17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

18 But we all, with open **face** beholding as in a glass the **glory** of the Lord, are changed into the same **image** from **glory** to **glory**, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

That is, our face receives the same glory from the face of Christ. Although used figuratively (at least in part), the image does not refer in any way to other than physical characters. It is only within the analogy that it might take on another meaning.

2 Corinthians 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the **glorious** gospel of Christ, who is the **image** of God, should shine unto them.

This verse follows hard on the previous passage, and it is clearly referencing the fact that the face of Christ is full of the glory of God; indeed, he is the very image of God, the full glory, exceeding that of Moses.

Colossians 1:15 Who is the **image** of the invisible God, the **firstborn** of every **creature**:

God is invisible, but he is seen only in the Son. Thus, the Son is the image of the invisible God. This is referenced also later:

Hebrews 1:3 Who being the brightness of his **glory**, and the express **image** of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

Finally:

Colossians 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the **image** of him that created him:

This at first would seem to be the exception to the rule, showing that it is knowledge which the image refers to. But the next verse makes it plain:

Colossians 3:11 Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

The image is one thing, the knowledge is in accordance with it. That is, the image is that of Christ's glorious body, in whom we all are, and who is in us all. We are all one, not different classes. Therefore, we should walk in this knowledge, treating each other as such:

Colossians 3:12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;  
13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

The image of Christ is thus always a reference to his physical/spiritual figure, not to any attribute or quality of the mind or heart.

## VS Shadows

Hebrews 10:1 For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very **image** of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.

This is speaking figuratively, but could be placed with the statue verses. It is speaking of how a figure casts a shadow. From the shadow only the outline can be seen; a 2-dimensional image. The full form is only discernible by viewing the figure itself.

## Conclusions

Image is paralleled with likeness (7x), glory (7x, NT only), form (2x), conformed (1x, NT), similitude of figure (1x).

Every single time that the word image is used, it is a reference to the form of a living thing, usually the form of a man. Never does it reference anything immaterial, such as the mind or makeup of the personality.

## Images

### Idols

Genesis 31:19 And Laban went to shear his sheep: and Rachel had stolen the **images** that were her father's.

Genesis 31:34 Now Rachel had taken the **images**, and put them in the camel's furniture, and sat upon them. And Laban searched all the tent, but found them not.

Genesis 31:35 And she said to her father, Let it not displease my lord that I cannot rise up before thee; for the custom of women is upon me. And he searched, but found not the **images**.

Exodus 23:24 Thou shalt not bow down to their gods, nor serve them, nor do after their works: but thou shalt utterly overthrow them, and quite break down their **images**.

Exodus 34:13 But ye shall destroy their altars, break their **images**, and cut down their groves:

Leviticus 26:30 And I will destroy your high places, and cut down your **images**, and cast your carcasses upon the **carcasses** of your idols, and my soul shall abhor you.

Numbers 33:52 Then ye shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, and destroy all their **pictures**, and destroy all their molten **images**, and quite pluck down all their high places:

Deuteronomy 7:5 But thus shall ye deal with them; ye shall destroy their altars, and break down their **images**, and cut down their groves, and burn their graven **images** with fire.

Deuteronomy 7:25 The graven **images** of their gods shall ye burn with fire: thou shalt not desire the silver or gold that is on them, nor take it unto thee, lest thou be snared therein: for it is an abomination to the LORD thy God.

Deuteronomy 12:3 And ye shall overthrow their altars, and break their pillars, and burn their groves with fire; and ye shall hew down the graven **images** of their gods, and destroy the names of them out of that place.

2 Samuel 5:21 And there they left their **images**, and David and his men burned them.

1 Kings 14:9 But hast done evil above all that were before thee: for thou hast gone and made thee other gods, and molten **images**, to provoke me to anger, and hast cast me behind thy back:

1 Kings 14:23 For they also built them high places, and **images**, and groves, on every high hill, and under every green tree.

2 Kings 10:26 And they brought forth the **images** out of the house of Baal, and burned them.

2 Kings 11:18 And all the people of the land went into the house of Baal, and brake it down; his altars and his **images** brake they in pieces thoroughly, and slew Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars. And the priest appointed officers over the house of the LORD.

2 Kings 17:10 And they set them up **images** and groves in every high hill, and under every green tree:

2 Kings 17:16 And they left all the commandments of the LORD their God, and made them molten **images**, even two calves, and made a grove, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served Baal.

2 Kings 17:41 So these nations feared the LORD, and served their graven **images**, both their children, and their children's children: as did their fathers, so do they unto this day.

2 Kings 18:4 He removed the high places, and brake the **images**, and cut down the groves, and brake in pieces the brasen serpent that Moses had made: for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it Nehushtan.

2 Kings 23:14 And he brake in pieces the **images**, and cut down the groves, and filled their places with the bones of men.

2 Kings 23:24 Moreover the workers with familiar spirits, and the wizards, and the **images**, and the idols, and all the abominations that were spied in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, did Josiah put away, that he might perform the words of the law which were written in the book that Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the LORD.

2 Chronicles 14:3 For he took away the altars of the strange gods, and the high places, and brake down the **images**, and cut down the groves:

2 Chronicles 14:5 Also he took away out of all the cities of Judah the high places and the **images**: and the kingdom was quiet before him.

2 Chronicles 23:17 Then all the people went to the house of Baal, and brake it down, and brake his altars and his **images** in pieces, and slew Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars.

2 Chronicles 28:2 For he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, and made also molten **images** for Baalim.

2 Chronicles 31:1 Now when all this was finished, all Israel that were present went out to the cities of Judah, and brake the **images** in pieces, and cut down the groves, and threw down the high places and the altars out of all Judah and Benjamin, in Ephraim also and Manasseh, until they had utterly destroyed them all. Then all the children of Israel returned, every man to his possession, into their own cities.

2 Chronicles 33:19 His prayer also, and how God was intreated of him, and all his sin, and his trespass, and the places wherein he built high places, and set up groves and graven **images**, before he was humbled: behold, they are written among the sayings of the seers.

2 Chronicles 33:22 But he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, as did Manasseh his father: for Amon sacrificed unto all the carved **images** which Manasseh his father had made, and served them;

2 Chronicles 34:3 For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David his father: and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the groves, and the carved **images**, and the molten **images**.

2 Chronicles 34:4 And they brake down the altars of Baalim in his presence; and the **images**, that were on high above them, he cut down; and the groves, and the carved **images**, and the molten **images**, he brake in pieces, and made dust of them, and strowed it upon the graves of them that had sacrificed unto them.

2 Chronicles 34:7 And when he had broken down the altars and the groves, and had beaten the graven **images** into powder, and cut down all the idols throughout all the land of Israel, he returned to Jerusalem.

Psalms 78:58 For they provoked him to anger with their high places, and moved him to jealousy with their graven **images**.

Psalms 97:7 Confounded be all they that serve graven **images**, that boast themselves of idols: worship him, all ye gods.

Isaiah 10:10 As my hand hath found the kingdoms of the idols, and whose graven **images** did excel them of Jerusalem and of Samaria;

Isaiah 17:8 And he shall not look to the altars, the work of his hands, neither shall respect that which his fingers have made, either the groves, or the **images**.

Isaiah 21:9 And, behold, here cometh a chariot of men, with a couple of horsemen. And he answered and said, Babylon is fallen, is fallen; and all the graven **images** of her gods he hath broken unto the ground.

Isaiah 27:9 By this therefore shall the iniquity of Jacob be purged; and this is all the fruit to take away his sin; when he maketh all the stones of the altar as chalkstones that are beaten in sunder, the groves and **images** shall not stand up.

Isaiah 30:22 Ye shall defile also the covering of thy graven **images** of silver, and the ornament of thy molten **images** of gold: thou shalt cast them away as a menstruous cloth; thou shalt say unto it, Get thee hence.

Isaiah 41:29 Behold, they are all vanity; their works are nothing: their molten **images** are wind and confusion.

Isaiah 42:8 I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven **images**.

Isaiah 42:17 They shall be turned back, they shall be greatly ashamed, that trust in graven **images**, that say to the molten **images**, Ye are our gods.

Jeremiah 8:19 Behold the voice of the cry of the daughter of my people because of them that dwell in a far country: Is not the LORD in Zion? is not her king in her? Why have they provoked me to anger with their graven **images**, and with strange vanities?

Jeremiah 43:13 He shall break also the **images** of Beth-shemesh, that is in the land of Egypt; and the houses of the gods of the Egyptians shall he burn with fire.

Jeremiah 50:2 Declare ye among the nations, and publish, and set up a standard; publish, and conceal not: say, Babylon is taken, Bel is confounded, Merodach is broken in pieces; her idols are confounded, her **images** are broken in pieces.

Jeremiah 50:38 A drought is upon her waters; and they shall be dried up: for it is the land of graven **images**, and they are mad upon their idols.

Jeremiah 51:47 Therefore, behold, the days come, that I will do judgment upon the graven **images** of Babylon: and her whole land shall be confounded, and all her slain shall fall in the midst of her.

Jeremiah 51:52 Wherefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will do judgment upon her graven **images**: and through all her land the wounded shall groan.

Ezekiel 6:4 And your altars shall be desolate, and your **images** shall be broken: and I will cast down your slain men before your idols.

Ezekiel 6:6 In all your dwellingplaces the cities shall be laid waste, and the high places shall be desolate; that your altars may be laid waste and made desolate, and your idols may be broken and cease, and your **images** may be cut down, and your works may be abolished.

Ezekiel 7:20 As for the beauty of his ornament, he set it in majesty: but they made the **images** of their abominations and of their detestable things therein: therefore have I set it far from them.

Ezekiel 16:17 Thou hast also taken thy fair jewels of my gold and of my silver, which I had given thee, and madest to thyself **images** of men, and didst commit whoredom with them,

Ezekiel 21:21 For the king of Babylon stood at the parting of the way, at the head of the two ways, to use divination: he made his arrows bright, he consulted with **images**, he looked in the liver.

Ezekiel 30:13 Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will also destroy the idols, and I will cause their **images** to cease out of Noph; and there shall be no more a prince of the land of Egypt: and I will put a fear in the land of Egypt.

Hosea 10:1 Israel is an empty vine, he bringeth forth fruit unto himself: according to the multitude of his fruit he hath increased the altars; according to the goodness of his land they have made goodly **images**.

Hosea 10:2 Their heart is divided; now shall they be found faulty: he shall break down their altars, he shall spoil their **images**.

Hosea 11:2 As they called them, so they went from them: they sacrificed unto Baalim, and burned incense to graven **images**.

Hosea 13:2 And now they sin more and more, and have made them molten **images** of their silver, and idols according to their own understanding, all of it the work of the craftsmen: they say of them, Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves.

Amos 5:26 But ye have borne the tabernacle of your Moloch and Chiun your **images**, the star of your god, which ye made to yourselves.

Micah 1:7 And all the graven **images** thereof shall be beaten to pieces, and all the hires thereof shall be burned with the fire, and all the idols thereof will I lay desolate: for she gathered it of the hire of an harlot, and they shall return to the hire of an harlot.

Micah 5:13 Thy graven **images** also will I cut off, and thy standing **images** out of the midst of thee; and thou shalt no more worship the work of thine hands.

Molten images (10x), graven images (20x), carved images (3x), images of men (1x), standing images (1x).

## Figures

1 Samuel 6:5 Wherefore ye shall make **images** of your emerods, and **images** of your mice that mar the land; and ye shall give glory unto the God of Israel: peradventure he will lighten his hand from off you, and from off your gods, and from off your land.

1 Samuel 6:11 And they laid the ark of the LORD upon the cart, and the coffer with the mice of gold and the **images** of their emerods.

## Pictures

Ezekiel 23:14 And that she increased her whoredoms: for when she saw men pourtrayed upon the wall, the **images** of the Chaldeans pourtrayed with vermilion,

In this case it is possible that a 2 dimensional picture is intended, although it could also be a painting of a relief.

## Imagery

Ezekiel 8:12 Then said he unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen what the ancients of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the chambers of his **imagery**? for they say, The LORD seeth us not; the LORD hath forsaken the earth.

As in, the secret place in which he keeps and worships his images (idols).

## Imagination

Genesis 6:5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every **imagination** of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Genesis 8:21 And the LORD smelled a sweet savour; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the **imagination** of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.

Genesis 11:6 And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have **imagined** to do.

Deuteronomy 29:19 And it come to pass, when he heareth the words of this curse, that he bless himself in his heart, saying, I shall have peace, though I walk in the **imagination** of mine heart, to add drunkenness to thirst:

Deuteronomy 31:21 And it shall come to pass, when many evils and troubles are befallen them, that this song shall testify against them as a witness; for it shall not be forgotten out of the mouths of their seed: for I know their **imagination** which they go about, even now, before I have brought them into the land which I swear.

1 Chronicles 28:9 And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the **imaginings** of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever.

1 Chronicles 29:18 O LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, our fathers, keep this for ever in the **imagination** of the thoughts of the heart of thy people, and prepare their heart unto thee:

Job 6:26 Do ye **imagine** to reprove words, and the speeches of one that is desperate, which are as wind?

Job 21:27 Behold, I know your thoughts, and the devices which ye wrongfully **imagine** against me.

Psalms 2:1 Why do the heathen rage, and the people **imagine** a vain thing?

Psalms 10:2 The wicked in his pride doth persecute the poor: let them be taken in the devices that they have **imagined**.

Psalms 21:11 For they intended evil against thee: they **imagined** a mischievous device, which they are not able to perform.

Psalms 38:12 They also that seek after my life lay snares for me: and they that seek my hurt speak mischievous things, and **imagine** deceits all the day long.

Psalms 62:3 How long will ye **imagine** mischief against a man? ye shall be slain all of you: as a bowing wall shall ye be, and as a tottering fence.

Psalms 140:2 Which **imagine** mischiefs in their heart; continually are they gathered together for war.

Proverbs 6:18 An heart that deviseth wicked **imaginings**, feet that be swift in running to mischief,

Proverbs 12:20 Deceit is in the heart of them that **imagine** evil: but to the counsellors of peace is joy.

Jeremiah 3:17 At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the LORD; and all the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem: neither shall they walk any more after the **imagination** of their evil heart.

Jeremiah 7:24 But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear, but walked in the counsels and in the **imagination** of their evil heart, and went backward, and not forward.

Jeremiah 9:14 But have walked after the **imagination** of their own heart, and after Baalim, which their fathers taught them:

Jeremiah 11:8 Yet they obeyed not, nor inclined their ear, but walked every one in the **imagination** of their evil heart: therefore I will bring upon them all the words of this covenant, which I commanded them to do; but they did them not.

Jeremiah 13:10 This evil people, which refuse to hear my words, which walk in the **imagination** of their heart, and walk after other gods, to serve them, and to worship them, shall even be as this girdle, which is good for nothing.

Jeremiah 16:12 And ye have done worse than your fathers; for, behold, ye walk every one after the **imagination** of his evil heart, that they may not hearken unto me:

Jeremiah 18:12 And they said, There is no hope: but we will walk after our own devices, and we will every one do the **imagination** of his evil heart.

Jeremiah 23:17 They say still unto them that despise me, The LORD hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that walketh after the **imagination** of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you.

Lamentations 3:60 Thou hast seen all their vengeance and all their **imaginings** against me.

Lamentations 3:61 Thou hast heard their reproach, O LORD, and all their **imaginings** against me;

Hosea 7:15 Though I have bound and strengthened their arms, yet do they **imagine** mischief against me.

Nahum 1:9 What do ye **imagine** against the LORD? he will make an utter end: affliction shall not rise up the second time.

Nahum 1:11 There is one come out of thee, that **imagineth** evil against the LORD, a wicked counsellor.

Zechariah 7:10 And oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger, nor the poor; and let none of you **imagine** evil against his brother in your heart.

Zechariah 8:17 And let none of you **imagine** evil in your hearts against his neighbour; and love no false oath: for all these are things that I hate, saith the LORD.

Luke 1:51 He hath shewed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the **imagination** of their hearts.

Acts 4:25 Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people **imagine** vain things?

Romans 1:21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their **imaginings**, and their foolish heart was darkened.

2 Corinthians 10:5 Casting down **imaginings**, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Not directly related, but it is noteworthy that imagination refers to the concocting of an image within the mind.

## Likeness

What is a likeness?

## God

Genesis 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our **image**, after our **likeness**: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Genesis 5:1 This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the **likeness** of God made he him;

Psalms 17:15 As for me, I will behold thy **face** in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy **likeness**.

Likeness is paralleled with face.

Isaiah 40:18 To **whom** then will ye **liken** God? or what **likeness** will ye **compare** unto him?

Here likeness is actually paralleled with "whom." A likeness is a person. Or, in this case, it is in the context of idolatry and fashioning a graven image. God's power and holiness are unparalleled; it is therefore not right that any thing should be compared unto him as an object of worship. That thing is exalted out of measure, nothing and no one is a fit comparison.

## Adam

Genesis 5:3 And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own **likeness**, after his **image**; and called his name Seth:

## Idols

Exodus 20:4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven **image**, or any **likeness** of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

Deuteronomy 4:16 Lest ye corrupt yourselves, and make you a graven **image**, the **similitude** of any **figure**, the **likeness** of male or female,

Deuteronomy 4:17 The **likeness** of any beast that is on the earth, the **likeness** of any winged fowl that flieth in the air,

Deuteronomy 4:18 The **likeness** of any thing that creepeth on the ground, the **likeness** of any fish that is in the waters beneath the earth:

Deuteronomy 4:23 Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of the LORD your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven **image**, or the **likeness** of any thing, which the LORD thy God hath forbidden thee.

Deuteronomy 4:25 When thou shalt beget children, and children's children, and ye shall have remained long in the land, and shall corrupt yourselves, and make a graven **image**, or the **likeness** of any thing, and shall do evil in the sight of the LORD thy God, to provoke him to anger:

Deuteronomy 5:8 Thou shalt not make thee any graven **image**, or any **likeness** of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth:

In all of these cases, the likeness can only apply to the physical form and figure, since an idol has no other properties.

## **Cherubim, etc.**

Ezekiel 1:5 Also out of the midst thereof came the **likeness** of four living creatures. And this was their **appearance**; they had the **likeness** of a man.

Ezekiel 1:10 As for the **likeness** of their faces, they four had the face of a man, and the face of a lion, on the right side: and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle.

Ezekiel 1:13 As for the **likeness** of the living creatures, their **appearance** was like burning coals of fire, and like the **appearance** of lamps: it went up and down among the living creatures; and the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lightning.

Ezekiel 1:16 The **appearance** of the wheels and their work was like unto the colour of a beryl: and they four had one **likeness**: and their **appearance** and their **work** was as it were a wheel in the middle of a wheel.

Ezekiel 1:22 And the **likeness** of the firmament upon the heads of the living creature was as the colour of the terrible crystal, stretched forth over their heads above.

Ezekiel 1:26 And above the firmament that was over their heads was the **likeness** of a throne, as the **appearance** of a sapphire stone: and upon the **likeness** of the throne was the **likeness** as the **appearance** of a man above upon it.

Ezekiel 1:28 As the **appearance** of the bow that is in the cloud in the day of rain, so was the **appearance** of the brightness round about. This was the **appearance** of the **likeness** of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw it, I fell upon my face, and I heard a voice of one that spake.

Ezekiel 8:2 Then I beheld, and lo a **likeness** as the **appearance** of fire: from the **appearance** of his loins even downward, fire; and from his loins even upward, as the **appearance** of brightness, as the colour of amber.

Ezekiel 10:1 Then I looked, and, behold, in the firmament that was above the head of the cherubims there appeared over them as it were a sapphire stone, as the **appearance** of the **likeness** of a throne.

Ezekiel 10:10 And as for their **appearances**, they four had one **likeness**, as if a wheel had been in the midst of a wheel.

Ezekiel 10:21 Every one had four faces apiece, and every one four wings; and the **likeness** of the hands of a man was under their wings.

Ezekiel 10:22 And the **likeness** of their faces was the same faces which I saw by the river of Chebar, their **appearances** and themselves: they went every one straight forward.

Likeness here is paralleled repeatedly with appearance.

## Men

Acts 14:11 And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, The gods are come down to us in the **likeness** of men.

That is, in the form of men, or appearing as men.

Philippians 2:7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the **form** of a servant, and was made in the **likeness** of men:

That is, he took on flesh, he became a man.

Romans 8:3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the **likeness** of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

## Christ

Romans 6:5 For if we have been planted together in the **likeness** of his death, we shall be also in the **likeness** of his resurrection:

This may at first appear to be a more generic use of the term likeness, not referring to form, but just similarity. However, we must review the context:

Romans 6:1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been planted together in the **likeness** of his death, we shall be also in the **likeness** of his resurrection:

6 Knowing this, that our **old man** is crucified with him, that the **body** of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

7 For he that is dead is freed from sin.

8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:

9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.

10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.

11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

12 Let not sin therefore reign in your **mortal body**, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

13 Neither yield ye your **members** as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

He is speaking here of our physical bodies, and how we should not live to the lusts of our flesh, the body of sin, but to the will of God, and the body of Christ, which we have been baptized into.

We became part of his body. Therefore, just as he bears in his body the marks of death, so do we. That is, we are crucified with him. See in our hands the print of the nails.

But if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death (we are baptized into his crucified and buried body), we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection. That is, we shall also share in his resurrected likeness, we will have resurrected bodies. And so even now we should live out the power of the resurrection, seeing that we are already baptized into his resurrected body.

Thus, the likeness does indeed refer once again not just to similar experience, but to a bodily state. Our body is and shall be like his body; we are crucified and resurrected. As we were told in the verses on “image”, we shall be changed into the same image. We shall be in the likeness of his resurrection. A holy and righteous body.

## **Conclusion**

A likeness is an appearance of form or figure. Never is it used to refer to generic similarities between things. It never references the immaterial parts of our nature and personality.

## **Conclusion**

The words image and likeness are both entirely consistent in their biblical usage. They always refer to the form of a figure. They never reference the immaterial part of our nature or personality, our mind, emotions, etc.

The main reason for reading any of these things into Genesis 1:26, is a belief that because God is a spirit, he does not have a figure. This is manifestly untrue, and in fact denies the deity and even existence of Christ, who is the figure of God. From Job 4:15-16 we know that a spirit does have form, although in a night vision it may be difficult to discern. Ezekiel’s visions are also filled with appearances and forms, including the likeness of the glory of the God of Israel.

Within Genesis 1, the image of God is not particularly tied to any immaterial attribute of man. The only thing that it could be tied to, though perhaps not explicitly, is dominion. God wanted one like himself to have dominion over his creation. Being made in God’s image, this dominion would be to God’s glory. God would not create a being in his likeness and then subject it to one not like him. This would simply be improper. But God would make a creature in his image. And, that God might receive the greater and due glory, he would give dominion to this one of his creatures.

That the image of God also includes the faculties required to have dominion, is going a step beyond what the text says. It is true that the faculties for dominion were given to the creature who would have dominion. But this goes without saying. So does God give meet faculties to each of his creatures for the work he designed for them. But although he who was created in God’s image was given these faculties, and this must needs be so, the faculties are not the image itself, nor any part of it. The “image” and “likeness” of God is not intended in any way to refer to these.

Indeed, man’s faculties do not approach that of the Godhead. God is unique, to whom shall he be like? In both faculties and works there is none like him, no image fit to be compared to him in worship—even that of the figure of a man.

That is not to say that those faculties which we do possess are not patterned after his. They certainly are. But we have these in addition to his image. They are not his image itself. But they accompany it in us, for his glory. That he might be glorified through the glorification of his image.