

# The IMAGE and LIKENESS of GOD

## The Relationship between GOD, JESUS CHRIST and MAN

### 11. The concept of "glory" (overview only)

#### What is "Glory"?

The expression of one's dignity, honor, worth, greatness, splendor, majesty. The qualities that form the basis for boasting, or a high opinion about someone/something. In heavenly beings, the "internal" glory can be seen (externally) as a brightness or light that radiates out from them.

A number of the passages that were examined for this study mention the concept of "glory." Others mention "light," "brightness," or something similar - a visible representation of glory. These passages are listed below.

For the purposes of our study, we noted the presence of the word "glory," but did not examine the word further.

The verses are quoted from the World English Bible (public domain).

#### Passages that contain the concept of: glory / glorious / etc.

1. ***The glory of God - rejected by humans.***

**Romans 1:22-23** - Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and traded the glory of the incorruptible God for the likeness of an image of corruptible man, and of birds, and four-footed animals, and creeping things.

2. ***The radiance of God's glory - seen in the Son***

**Hebrews 1:3** - His Son is the radiance of his glory, the very image of his substance, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself made purification for our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

3. ***The glory of God - seen in Jesus' exaltation.***

**Philippians 2:6-11** - [Christ Jesus,] who, existing in the form of God, didn't consider equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, yes, the death of the cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him, and gave to him the name which is above every name; that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, those on earth, and those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

4. ***God's glory - the reason he called us to salvation.***

**2 Peter 1:3-4** - ... his divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and virtue; by which he has granted to us his precious and exceedingly great promises; that through these you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world by lust.

5. ***The glory of the Lord - we are being transformed into its image.***

**2 Corinthians 3:18** - But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord, the Spirit.

6. ***The glory of God... the glory of man.***

**1 Corinthians 11:7** - For a man indeed ought not to have his head covered, because he is the image and glory of God, but the woman is the glory of the man.

7. ***The glory of Jesus' body - ours will become like it.***

**Philippians 3:20-21** - For our citizenship is in heaven, from where we also wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; who will change the body of our humiliation to be conformed to the body of his glory, according to the working by which he is able even to subject all things to himself.

**Passages that contain the concept of: light / brightness / shining / etc.**

1. ***The "Father of lights"***

**James 1:17** - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom can be no variation, nor turning shadow.

2. ***Jesus as the light in the shadow of death.***

**Matthew 4:16** - "... the people who sat in darkness saw a great light, to those who sat in the region and shadow of death, to them light has dawned."

**Luke 1:78-79** - "... because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the dawn from on high [= Jesus] will visit us, to shine on those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death; to guide our feet into the way of peace."

3. ***Jesus - his appearance changed on the mountain.***

**Matthew 17:2** - He [Jesus] was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his garments became as white as the light.

**Mark 9:2-3** - After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James, and John, and brought them up onto a high mountain privately by themselves, and he was changed into another form in front of them. His clothing became glistening, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them.

**Luke 9:28-29** - It happened about eight days after these sayings, that he took with him Peter, John, and James, and went up onto the mountain to pray. As he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became white and dazzling.

4. ***The angel at the tomb's appearance.***

**Matthew 28:3** - [The angel at the tomb.] His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow.

5. ***Satan's "masquerade" as an angel of light.***

**2 Corinthians 11:14** - And no wonder, for even Satan masquerades as an angel of light. [His servants will *also* pretend to be righteous.]

**Passages containing both concepts.**

1. ***New Jerusalem - the glory of God present; the city's light described.***

**Revelation 21:10-11** - He carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, as if it was a jasper stone, clear as crystal; ...

2. ***The glory of Christ = the light of the good news - the unbelieving are blind to it.***

**2 Corinthians 4:3-4** - Even if our Good News is veiled, it is veiled in those who perish; in whom the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that the light of the Good News of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should not dawn on them.

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### 12. Synonyms - Comparison of the N.T. Greek words

#### Introductory comments

These definitions are based on comments found in:

- Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament.
- The Interlinear Literal Translation of the Greek New Testament, by George Ricker Berry.

If you are interested in further research, there are several other Greek-English lexicons and New Testament Greek dictionaries available.

The number and letter in [brackets] represents the word, listed in the order that we studied them.

#### Image and likeness - εἰκών [1A] & ὁμοίωμα [6D]

- ὁμοίωμα - denotes often not mere similarity but *likeness*, visible conformity to its object
- εἰκών - adds to the idea of likeness the suggestions of representation (as a derived likeness) and manifestation

#### Form and appearance - μορφή [3A] & σχῆμα [4A] & εἰδέα/ἰδέα [5B]

- εἰδέα - merely outward appearance; deals with externals
- μορφή & σχῆμα - outward form, but including one's habits, activities and modes of action in general; distinctions between these words, according to some (but not all):

μορφή - outward form that expresses the inner essence; expresses the form as that which is intrinsic and essential; externals - as expressing that which is internal

σχῆμα - signifies the figure, shape, as that which is more outward and accidental; externals - but more comprehensive than εἰδέα

#### To change / transform - μεταμορφώω [3D] & μετασχηματίζω [4B]

- μεταμορφώω - the permanent state to which the change takes place
- μετασχηματίζω - the transient condition from which the change takes place; possibly preferred over μεταμορφώω as expressing "transition, but no absolute solution to continuity" (the spiritual from the natural as the butterfly from the caterpillar)

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### 13 - "Frequency Table"

This table shows the number of times each of these words is used in each of the books of the New Testament. This would include instances in which the word was later determined to be *not* relevant to our current study. The combined total for each word is given in the last column.

Numbers in [brackets] represent verses in which only some manuscripts use that word. (The others may use a synonym or may omit the word entirely, depending on the passage. Either way, the over-all message of the passage is not seriously impacted.)

Books that do not contain *any* of these words are: Ephesians, Philemon, 2 John, and 3 John.

ID.	Word	Mt	Mk	L	Jn	A	Ro	1C	2C	G	E	Php	Col	1Th	2Th	1Ti	2Ti	Tit	Phm	H	Jas	1P	2P	1J	2J	3J	Ju	Rev	Tot.
1A	ει'κω'ν	1	1	1			2	3	2				2							1								10	23
1B	ει'κω																				2								2
2A	χαρακτη'ρ																			1									1
2B	χα'ραγμα					1																					7	8	
3A	μορφη'		[1]									2																2+	[1]
3B	μορφο'ω									1																			1
3C	μο'ρφωσις						1										1												2
3D	μεταμορφο'ω	1	1				1		1																				4
3E	συμμορφο'ς						1					1																	2
3F	συμμορφο'ω											1																	1

ID.	Word	Mt	Mk	L	Jn	A	Ro	1C	2C	G	E	Php	Col	1Th	2Th	1Ti	2Ti	Tit	Phm	H	Jas	1P	2P	1J	2J	3J	Ju	Rev	Tot.
4A	σχημα							1				1																	2
4B	μετασχηματίζω							1	3			1																	5
4C	συσχηματίζω						1															1							2
5A	ειδος			2	1				1					1															5
5B	ιδέα	1																											1
6A	ομοιος	9	[1]	9	2	1				1														1			1	22+	46+
6B	ομοιότης																			2									2
6C	ομοιόω	8	1	3		1	1													1									15
6D	ομοίωμα						4					1															1	6	
6E	ομοιώσις																				1								1
6F	ομοιοπαθής					1															1								2
6G	αφομοιόω																			1									1
6H	παρομοιάζω	1				[1]																							1+
6I	παρόμοιος		1+																										1+
7A	σκια	1	1	1		1							1							2									7
7B	επισκιαζω	1	1	2		1																							5
7C	αποσκίασμα																				1								1
8A	τύπος				1	3	2	2				1		1	1	1		1		1		1							15
9A	ύσος	1	2	1	1	1						1															1	8	
10A	υπόδειγμα				1															3	1		1						6
10B	υπόδεικνυμι	1		3		2																							6

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### 14. Hebrew definitions - words in the Genesis passages

#### Verses are quoted from the World English Bible (public domain).

##### Genesis 1:26-27

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 birds of the sky, and over the livestock, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." God created man in his own *image*. In God's *image* he created him; male and female he created them.

##### Genesis 5:1-3

This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, he made him in God's *likeness*. He created them male and female, and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created. Adam lived one hundred thirty years, and became the father of a son in his own *likeness*, after his *image*, and named him Seth.

##### Genesis 9:6

Whoever sheds man's blood, his blood will be shed by man, for God made man in his own *image*.

#### The definitions given below are from Strong's Concordance (public domain).

##### Image

tselem, Hebrew 6754, [tseh'-lem]; from an unused root meaning to shade; a phantom, i.e. (figurative) illusion, resemblance; hence a representative figure, especially an idol.

##### Likeness

demuwth, Hebrew 1823, [dem-ooth']; from Hebrew 1819 (damah); resemblance; concrete model, shape; adverb like.

#### Comparable Greek words (applies only to these specific Genesis verses)

In the Septuagint (an early Greek translation of the Old Testament), here is how these words are translated. The numbers in brackets identifies the word group where we studied the New Testament use of the word.

The word "*image*" is always translated by the same Greek word:

- It is always εἰκὼν (eikōn) [1A].

The word "*likeness*" is translated differently each time it occurs in these passages:

- In Genesis 1:26, it is ὁμοιωσις (homoio̅sis) [6E].
- In Genesis 5:1, it is εἰκὼν (eikōn) [1A].
- In Genesis 5:3, it is ἰδέα (idea) [5B].

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### 15. A Quick Comparison - Christ and Man

(Selected passages)

The numbers/letters in brackets indicate the N.T. Greek words, in the order that we studied them (arranged by group). Refer to those specific studies for more information about the words.

#### Relationship to God

##### 1. CHRIST

- a. Is equal [9A] to God - John 5:18; Philippians 2:6.
- b. Exists [1A-2] as the image [1A] of God - 2 Corinthians 4:4; Colossians 1:15 (... of the invisible God).
- c. Is the exact representation [2A] of God's being [2A-1]; the radiance [2A-2] of God's glory - Hebrews 1:3.
- d. Existed (in heaven) in God's form/nature [3A] - Philippians 2:6.
- e. Has the fullness of the divine being [2B-3] residing bodily in him - Colossians 2:9.

##### 2. MAN

- a. Possessed (or came to have) [1A-1] the image [1A] of God - 1 Corinthians 11:7.
- b. Came to be [6D-1] in the likeness [6E] of God - James 3:9.

#### Jesus Christ - becoming like us

##### 1. THE "TRANSITION"

- a. He let go of his equality [9A] with God (he did not cling to his glory, honor, etc.) - Philippians 2:6. [After his resurrection, he received these things back.]
- b. He willingly took on a slave's form/nature [3A] - Philippians 2:7.
- c. He came to be [6D-1] in the likeness [6D] of men - Philippians 2:7.
- d. He was found in appearance [4A] as a man - Philippians 2:8.

##### 2. THE "END RESULT"

- a. He was sent in the likeness [6D] of sinful flesh - Romans 8:3.
- b. He was made like [6C] his brothers in every way - Hebrews 2:17.
- c. He was like [6B] us, except that he didn't sin - Hebrews 4:15.

# People who belong to Christ - becoming like Christ / God

## 1. THE "PREREQUISITES"

- a. A willingness to be conformed to [3F] him in his death - Philippians 3:10.
- b. Being united with him in the likeness [6D] of his death - Romans 6:5.
- c. Being transformed [3D] by the renewing of our minds; not being conformed [4C] to the world's ways - Romans 12:2.

## 2. THE "END RESULT"

- a. To bear the image [1A] of Christ, just as we have borne the image [1A] of Adam - 1 Corinthians 15:49.
- b. "Christ formed [3B] in you" - Galatians 4:19.
- c. Being like [6A] Jesus - 1 John 3:2.
- d. To be conformed [3E] to the image [1A] of the Son - Romans 8:29.
- e. To be transformed [3D] into the image [1A] of God's glory - 2 Corinthians 3:18.
- f. Our "new self" being renewed in the image [1A] of its creator - Colossians 3:10.
- g. Our "lowly" bodies being changed [4B] so they will be conformed to [3E] his (Jesus) glorious body - Philippians 3:21.