

Sovereign Grace Church

“What We Were” outline

March 10, 2019

Genesis 1: 26-27

We will take a short break from our study of Matthew and begin a Lenten series which will culminate on Easter Sunday. Lent is a part of the church calendar which begins with Ash Wednesday and ends on the Saturday before Easter. It is generally a time for reflection, repentance and preparation for the celebration of new life which is provided in the resurrection of Jesus.

This morning we will reflect on our original creation as beings designed to get our joy and hope from a personal and working relationship with our Triune Creator. We will consider God, His creation in general and then concentrate on His creation of us. The general pattern of God's revelation has been thought of as: Creation, the Fall, and Re-creation or Redemption. This is the theme we will pursue in the next several Sunday's and hopefully it will help all of us to reflect on the meaning of Jesus' bodily resurrection as that great act fits in to the rest of created reality.

1. Our Creator Ex. 3: 14

- **God is a spirit.... WSC #4**
- **God is Triune**
- **God's eternal character**

2. His Creation Gen. 1: 1

- **Matter**
- **Spirit beings Col. 1: 16**
- **His Plan Rev. 21: 1**

3. Humans

- **Our uniqueness** Gen. 1: 26-27; WSC #10; Col. 3:10; Eph. 4:24
- **Male & female**
- **Dominion** Gen. 2: 19-20; Rom. 8: 19
- **Our make-up** Lk 10: 27; Psm 42: 11

Question: Why did God call His creation “very good” considering that it was all susceptible to the Fall?!

Closing Thought

Questions for Conversation and Reflection

- 1. Have you ever attended a church that celebrates Lent? How was it celebrated? Did you find it profitable? Why do you think so many Protestant churches neglect it? Do you think we should make more of an effort to celebrate Lent? How?**
- 2. Why is it important to know about our original creation? What are some of the dangers of not reflecting upon our original creation? What things might be taken as normal that really are not?**
- 3. What does it mean to be created in God's image or likeness? Do you think fallen humans still possess the image of God? Why or why not? What may follow if we think they do not?**
- 4. What does it mean that humans were created male and female? Why is this significant in contemplating our creation in God's image? If God is neither male or female....what is He? Why does He refer to Himself as “He”?**
- 5. How are humans different than other animals? How are humans different than angels? Do you think angels were created in God's image as well? Why might angels tend to be jealous of human beings? How could they be “jealous” if they were created “good?” Is it necessarily wrong to be jealous? What is the potential problem with jealousy?**