

THE CHARACTERISTICS OF CHRIST’S IMAGE, Pt. 2 (Colossians 3:10-15)

A. MANKIND: BEARERS OF GOD’S IMAGE (Gen. 1:26-28; 5:1; 9:6; Jas. 3:9)

- *created in God’s image & likeness – substantive, relational, moral, functional*
- *fall into sin (Gen. 3) – image of God is defaced but not erased*
- *regeneration (2 Cor. 4:4; 5:17) & restoration (1 Cor. 15:49) through Jesus Christ*

B. TRANSFORMED INTO CHRIST’S IMAGE (2 Cor. 3:18; 4:4; 5:17)

3 STAGES OF CHRIST’S IMAGE			
STAGE/TENSE:	PAST	PRESENT	FUTURE
DESCRIPTION:	NEW CREATION	TRANSFORMATION	CONFORMATION
DIAGRAM:			
THEOLOGICAL PARALLEL:	JUSTIFICATION	SANCTIFICATION	GLORIFICATION
TIME:	POINT OF TIME (When you believe in Christ via the Gospel)	PROCESS OF TIME (While you walk by faith in Christ, filled with the Holy Spirit)	POINT OF TIME (When you are raptured / resurrected)
DEGREE:	SAME POSITIONALLY For All Believers	VARIES PRACTICALLY Among Believers	DEGREES OF GLORY or Reward Among Believers
SCRIPTURE:	2 Cor. 4:4, 5:17; Col. 3:10; Eph. 2:8-10a; 4:24	2 Cor. 3:18; 4:16; Rom. 12:2; Col. 3:12-15; Eph. 2:10b; 4:15, 25-32	1 Cor. 15:49; 2 Cor. 4:17-18; Rom. 8:29-30; Eph. 4:13; 5:27; 1 John 3:2

1. The **people** of this transformation includes all believers – “but we all with unveiled face.”
2. The **process** of this transformation involves on our part “beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord.”
3. The **product** or result of this process is that we “are being transformed [*metamorphoomai*].”
4. The **picture/pattern** of this transformation is “into the same image” of Jesus Christ.
5. The **progression** of this transformation is “from glory to glory.”
6. The **power** to accomplish this supernatural transformation is “by the Spirit of the Lord.”

C. CHARACTERISTICS OF CHRIST'S IMAGE (Col. 3:10-15)

- 1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
- 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.
- 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
- 4 When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

- 5 Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.
- 6 Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience,
- 7 in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.
- 8 But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.

- 9 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds,

- 10 and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the **image of Him** who created him,

- 11 where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

- 12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on **tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;**

- 13 **bearing** with one another, and **forgiving** one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

- 14 But above all these things put on **love**, which is the bond of perfection.

- 15 And let the **peace** of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be **thankful**.