

**Eden Series
Born To Create
08/24/19
NN Campus**

Opening

-read Fasseel note...

Introduction

-Genesis 1:26-27 (NASB)

-Born To Create

Imago Dei

-Genesis 1:26-27 (NASB)

- Image – “tselem” (selleem)
 - Same word for idolatry, unholy because mankind wants to be the creator who builds an image instead of being the image that is created, by a perfect God!
 - And although we are called to create, only as long as our identity remains as one was first created!
 - Also unholy because the “creator” now worships the image instead the image worshipping The Creator!
- Likeness – “damuwth” (daymoot) ... simply means to resemble

-Irenaeus (135-205)

- Image of God = free will, capacity to reason
- Likeness of God = moral and spiritual accountability (moral compass)

-Genesis 5:1-3 (NASB)

- Contrast between verse 1 and verse 3
- **Irenaeus believed mankind retained the image of God but lost His likeness...because one day we would need free will to choose the likeness of God once again!**
- John 1:12-13...the only way home to likeness!

-so what does a life look like when free will, reason, and moral accountability perfectly align?

God First Revealed

-Genesis 1:1-3

We see God as a creator, someone who is working, who is building for the betterment of others. He equates through His own actions: creating with productivity.

-What was your first job? (talk about prominent view differentiating “ministry” from “secular”)

-Genesis 2:18-25 (interesting Adam’s first job was not especially “spiritual”)

- Yes, to help him feel alone with her... (next week)
- Also, you can’t get married until you have job!
- God was teaching Adam this: **ruling doesn’t mean we are entitled but rather it means we are responsible, to work, to create, to be productive for the betterment of others.**

-Having a vocation, a job, a responsibility that serves the betterment of others, that defines you as being a productive, contributing member of society is a beautiful reflection of the Imago Dei!

-Not only is being a productive, contributing member of society a reflection of the Imago Dei, not only is it you and I walking in God’s mandate that we were Born To Create...but I believe that as we create for others, we are creating ourselves!

Faith, Work, & Economics

-Lester DeKoster's book... (hold up a copy)

-Matthew 25:31-33 (read from Bible)

- They don't become sheep or goats...they arrive that way
- Read verses 35-40
- DeKoster postulates this is not mercy ministry but rather categories of productivity, representing many facets of any country's economy
 - Feeding hungry = agriculture and food industry
 - Thirsty = many water related trades and government agencies
 - Clothed = manufacturing, textiles, real estate, insurance industry

-The author is NOT saying that Heaven comes to you based on your level of productivity!

-The author IS saying that as someone who has made vow of devotion to Christ, our lives are shaped by the work that we do!

-Being Born To Create isn't just about creating for the betterment of others, it is equally about creating for the betterment of ourselves!

-“God has made us that through working we actually sculpt the kind of selves we each are becoming in time and eternity.” Lester DeKoster

- School teacher vs. missionary
- Musician vs. pastor of adult education
- Custodian vs. preschool director
- Neurologist vs. church intern
- Plumber vs. evangelist

- If I have made a vow of devotion to Jesus and am pursuing my career to serve other, for the betterment of society...then I am ministering to my world in Jesus' name!

Band

-They became sheep: making a vow of devotion to Christ AND living a life of creating for others, being productive, the Imago Dei.

-They became goats: rejecting Christ AND living a life of self-interest at the expense of others, the image of self.

-(have everyone bow their heads...)

Close

-(in the moment)