

Mankind Was Created Male and Female

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

GENESIS 1:27

Humans were not only created with bodies and souls, but they were also created “*male and female*.” When Scripture tells us that God created humans male and female, it is pointing out that there are differences between men and women.

God didn’t create men and women the same, and that is a good thing. Even though God created men and women differently, both are important, and both are equally valuable in God’s eyes.

The reason God made men and women differently is that He designed them for each other. After God created the animals and Adam, Scripture tells us that there was no one to live with and help Adam (Gen. 2:18). God saw that it was not good for Adam to be alone, so He designed and created Eve to help Adam and be with him.

Even though God created men and women differently, Scripture shows us that when men and women come together in marriage, their differences complement each other. To complement something is to make it better or to help it fulfill its purpose.

For example, think about the way a glove fits on your hand. The glove matches the way that your hand was designed so that it fits perfectly. Each finger has a hole to match it.

The gloves complement your hands because the gloves were designed for your hands. The gloves help you do the work you need to do, like pulling prickly weeds in the garden.

In a similar way, God created men and women with differences that complement each other. Like a glove that was designed for your hand,

God designed men and women for each other. God created woman as a helper for man (Gen. 2:18; 1 Cor. 11:9). When men and women come together in marriage, they can better fulfill the purposes that God created them for.

The way that God created men and women to complement each other shows us the great wisdom of God. He knows us best, and He knows what is best for us because He formed us in our mothers' wombs (Ps. 139:13). Whenever you see differences between men and women, remember that God created them differently, and praise Him for His wisdom!



Prayer: Our wise God, thank You for showing Your wisdom in the way You created humans male and female. We praise You for creating us male and female. Thank You for creating men and women differently but designing us for each other. Please give us strength to live according to the way You have designed us. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.

Song: *Doxology* (SH 334)

Hymn: *Blest the Man That Feels Jehovah*, verses 1–2

Blest the man that fears Jehovah,
 Walking ever in His ways;
 By thy toil thou shalt be prospered
 And be happy all thy days.
 In thy wife thou shalt have gladness,
 She shall fill thy home with good,
 Happy in her loving service
 And the joys of motherhood.

Theology Question 3: How did God create mankind?

Answer: God created mankind male and female.

Mankind Was Created in the Image of God

*Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. . . ."
So God created man in his own image, in the image
of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

GENESIS 1:26-27

God created humans in His image and likeness. That means we were created to be like God. We were created to reflect Him. Think about looking into a mirror. When you look into a mirror, you see an image of yourself. You aren't in the mirror, but the mirror reflects who you are. In a similar way to how a mirror reflects your image, God created us to reflect Him.

Because humans were created in the image of God, they are different than the rest of creation. God displayed much of who He is through His creation of the world and everything in it. Romans 1:20 tells us that we can see God's *"eternal power and divine nature"* through the things He has made.

But humans are different. God created them specifically to reflect who He is. This sets humans apart in the eyes of God from everything else He has created.

Because humans are made in the image of God, they are more valuable and precious in God's sight than the rest of creation. Because God created you in His image, you are valuable in God's sight. Every other human has the same value that you do because we were all created in the likeness of God.

Knowing this should impact the way we view ourselves and the people around us. Because other humans were created in the image of God, we should value their lives and seek to treat them with respect. Knowing that we were created in the image of God helps us to understand why we exist and how God wants us live.

Being made in the likeness of God is the most important part of us. We were created to be and do what no other creature can be or do. We were created to be like God, as spiritual beings. We were created to act like God, to reflect His character.

When we think about how God created mankind, we must never forget that we were created in His image. This thought should humble us and lead us to praise God. We have the greatest blessing of all creation—we were made in the likeness of God. Let us give thanks to Him for this amazing gift!



Prayer: Gracious God, thank You for the gift of being made in Your image. We praise You for creating us in Your likeness, that we would be and act like You. We do not deserve to be created to reflect You, for You are great and glorious, and we are but from the dust of the ground. We give thanks to You for this amazing gift—the blessing of being created like You. Please grant us Your Spirit to empower us to faithfully reflect who You are. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Song: *Holy, Holy, Holy* (SH 4)

Hymn: *O Lord of Every Shining Constellation*, verse 1

You, Lord, have stamped Your image on Your creatures,
 And though they mar that image, love them still;
 Lift up our eyes to Christ, that in His features
 We may discern the beauty of Your will.

Theology Question 4: What is the most important part of the creation of mankind?

Answer: We were made in the image of God.