

We humans were created by God. Genesis 1:26-31

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27. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.
28. And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."
29. And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food.
30. And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.
31. And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.
And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Question 10 asks: How did God create man?

Answer: **God created man**, male and female, **after his own image**, in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, with dominion over the creatures.

Adam, the first human, was made by God from the dust of the earth.

Some details are laid out by the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:47-49.

47. The **first man** was from the earth, **a man of dust**; the **second man** is from heaven.
48. **As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust**,
and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven.
49. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

The "**first man**" **Adam** represented the whole human race which was to descend from him.

The **second man was Jesus**. Like Adam he **represented others**.

While we came from the elements of the Earth, **Jesus came down from heaven**.

Adam, the first man, **was made of the dust**.

That means he was formed from the **elements** in God's physical creation:

This included atoms of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, calcium, iron and many other basic elements.

He was **not made from "lower life forms"** or by modification of other **already living things**.

In the beginning Adam was alone in the Garden of Eden.

To fulfill his plan God made humans to be males and females. Genesis 2:21-25

21. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man,
and while he slept **took one of his ribs** and closed up its place with flesh.
22. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he **made into a woman** and brought her to the man.
23. Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called **Woman**, because **she was taken out of Man**."
24. Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.
25. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

Eve was made from the genetic material of Adam. Some translations say from "**his rib**" or "**his side**".

It's **not a precise term** in the inspired Hebrew text. The word there is "**Tse-lah**" (צלעה).

She was made **from some part of Adam's body** (side, rib, body).

Of course **she was not an identical copy of Adam**.

God modified Eve from the genetic code in the first man.

His "Y Chromosome" was replaced by another "**X Chromosome**".

This gave her what we know as "**female characteristics**".

She would produce eggs which would become new humans.

She could **grow the new babies** inside her womb, and **feed them with milk** from her breasts.

Today we're plagued by a denial by some who **believe we can choose or change our gender**.

The LGPDQ+ movement **ignores our basic genetic differences**.

God made us in his own image.

The *Shorter Catechism Question 4* says, "God is a spirit, infinite, eternal and unchangeable, in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth."

We like Him but **in finite ways**. We are **material and spirit, finite, temporal and changeable in our being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth.**

We were made with the **ability to know things as God reveals them** through his **word**, and in our **conscience**.

We were originally **made without rebellion** in our hearts.

There was **no sin** in either Adam or Eve when he made them. They were **personally innocent, righteous, and holy**. Of course that **changed** when the first human **fell into sin**.

When God created us, he gave us *dominion* over the other things he created.

Genesis 1 shows that this is our human **duty** and **privilege**.

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As God has primary dominion over all things,

Adam and his descendants were given dominion over what was given as their responsibility

We are commanded to **responsibly use what God put here**.

These are the thing that **sustain** us, and **improve circumstances** in our communities and homes.

Today this duty is horribly distorted and challenged.

Some abandon this concern for using God's resources responsibly.

They waste food, leave discarded trash around, and kill for sport rather than for food or protection.

They compromise the safety of others for their own selfish advancement.

Adam represented us all.

In Adam we **lost our righteousness**, and our **ability to gain it back** by our own efforts.

So **in Christ** the Messiah **we gain it back** by being **clothed in his righteousness**.

The **damaged image of God** in the lost troubled heart can only be **repaired by faith in our Savior**.

We add nothing to that faith. It's by **God's grace and power** that we come to him **through Christ's atonement**.

This is **the gospel**, the good news you possess to tell your neighbors, those you meet every day you're here.

Today God has given dominion to levels of authority in human relationships.

Husbands are to have responsible dominion in their families.

They are to lovingly, selflessly, and sacrificially lead their wives.

Ephesians 5:23-27, "For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her."

Parents have authority over their children to raise them well and guide them in godly living.

In Ephesians 6:1 the Apostle Paul says, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

Elders are given authority to direct their congregations in the church.

Titus 1:5-9, "This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint **elders** in every town as I directed you— if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination.

For an **overseer**, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it."

Managers or bosses in the workplace there are those who have authority over their workers.

They're to be sure they do their jobs responsibly doing what they're hired to do.

Titus 2:9-10 says, “**Servants are to be submissive to their own masters in everything; they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior.**”

There are **civil leaders** who pass and enforce laws to guide those under them.

In Matthew 22:21 Jesus said “**Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.**”

In Romans 13:1 the Apostle Paul said, “... **be subject to the governing authorities.**

For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.”

Hebrews 13:17 says, “**Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you**”

In each case their leadership must never violate God's revealed laws and principles.

They are not empowered to require what God forbids, or to go against what God commands.

In our fallen condition, we fallen humans tend to respect the rest of creation over humanity.

They so **want to blame humans** for harming the earth that they **ignore real science.**

Climate change is mostly effected by cycles in the Sun, not because of our gasoline use.

They **oppose simple energy sources** but replace them with things that do harm in other ways.

They often ignorantly **use up natural resources faster** while thinking they're **saving the earth.**

They **ignore real science** while choosing only the measurements that support their cause.

They **abuse** what they should **responsibly use**, or **deny the responsible use** of what God provided for us.

They **oppose clearing out forests** but end up creating what contributes to damaging wild-fires.

God commanded us to responsibly represent his dominion over the earth, and over all he put on it.

What were the first human bodies like?

What race and appearance did they have?

We see reconstructed remains of Neanderthals, and other variations of skulls and spines.

Whatever it was, **Adam was fully human - not an evolved ape.**

All the present races and colors of skin, hair, eyes developed through time and they **all started with Adam.**

These **genetic changes were minor variations** in what has always been "Human".

God providentially oversaw every genetic change in humans, animals, plants, fungi, protozoans, and monerans.

How long ago did God create Adam?

We don't have any biblical exact timeline.

The **Genealogies** in the Bible **were not meant to record every generation.**

Their purpose was to show a line of descent.

The genealogies tell that at some age or at some time one person “**fathered**” or “**begat**” someone.

The Hebrew word in the Old Testament which is translated as “**fathered**” or “**begat**” is **yelad** (יָלַד).

It's better translated “**became an ancestor of**”.

Sometimes the **same genealogy** in different places in the Bible show that **every generation was not included.**

Genesis 10 describes **entire nations that descended from Noah** after he and his family survived the great flood.

The **genealogy of Ezra** is recorded in the book which bears his name.

We learn from another passage that it was **abridged** by the omission of six consecutive names.

(Compare 1 Chronicles 6:3-14 and Ezra 7:1-5)

In **Matthew 1:1** the genealogy of Jesus is summed up in two steps,

“**Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.**”

In **Matthew 1:8** three names are dropped between Joram and Uzziah.

It leaves out Ahaziah (2 Kings 8:25), Joash (2 Kings 12:1), and Amaziah (2 Kings 14:1).

In **Matthew 1:11** Johoiakim is omitted after Josiah (compare 2 Kings 23:34 and 1 Chron. 3:16).

There are many other examples in the Bible.

(see **Primeval Chronology** by Dr. William Henry Green as published in *Bibliotheca Sacra* in 1890)

Therefore we can't add up the genealogies to determine when Adam was created.

What language did Adam & Eve speak?

They communicated with God, Satan, and each other.

Many languages developed after the tower of Babel when people were scattered to different places. Much later God gave his inspired word to Moses. He used Hebrew to communicate what was said.

We have a mandate as the special creatures God made us to be.

We're here to **appreciate his glory revealed** in all of creation.

We need to take time to appreciate its **intricate wonder and complexity**.

We need to **remind others** about **the Creator who made it** all, and **why** he made it - **to display His glory**.

We're assigned the **job of caring for creation** as those charged with **dominion** over it.

We're to **use it wisely** for our provisions, while **respecting the needs of others** around us.

We're to **worship the Creator** at all times, day and night, **as we consider creation's majestic wonder**.

We should live **in humble service of the Savior** who died in our place to enable us to see God's truth and glory.

Fill every day with worshipful prayer and appreciation for all God made, teaches us in His word, and for His redeeming grace.

The Bible quotations in this article are from the **English Standard Version** of the Bible unless otherwise noted.

ESV Genesis 1:26-31

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