

possessed came from God. Of course, God is spirit and doesn't have lungs for breathing. This statement is what theologians call an "anthropomorphism," the using of a human characteristic to explain a divine work or attribute.

Several important facts must be noted about the origin of humans. First, we were created by God. We are not the products of some galactic accident nor are we the occupants of the top rung of an evolutionary ladder. God made us, which means we are creatures and wholly dependent on Him. "For in Him we live, and move, and have our being" (Acts 17:28). Luke 3:38 calls Adam "the son of God."

Second, we were created in God's image (Gen. 1:26-27). Unlike the angels and the animals, humans can have a very special relationship with God. He not only gave us personality—minds to think with, emotions to feel with, and wills for making decisions—but He also gave us an inner spiritual nature that enables us to know Him and worship Him. The image of God in men and women has been marred by sin (Eph. 4:18-19), but through faith in Christ and submission to the work of the Holy Spirit, believers can have the divine nature renewed within them (2 Peter 1:4; Eph. 4:20-24; Col. 3:9-10; Rom. 12:2; 2 Cor. 3:18). One day when we see Jesus, all of God's children will share in the glorious image of Christ (1 John 3:1-3; Rom. 8:29; 1 Cor. 15:49).

Third, we were created to have dominion over the earth (Gen. 1:26, 28). Adam and Eve were the first regents over God's creation (Ps. 8:6-8). "The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord's; but the earth He has given to the children of men" (Ps. 115:16, nkjv). But when Adam believed Satan's lie and ate of the forbidden fruit, he lost [some of] his kingship; and now sin and death reign over the earth (Rom. 5:12-21).

When Jesus Christ, the last Adam (1 Cor. 15:45), came to earth, He exercised the dominion that the first Adam had lost. He demonstrated that He had authority over the fish (Luke 5:1-7; John 21:1-6; Matt. 17:24-27), the fowl (26:69-75), and the animals (Mark 1:13; 11:3-7). When He died on the cross, He conquered sin and death, so that now grace can reign (Rom. 5:21) and God's people can "reign in life" through Jesus Christ (v. 17). One day, when He returns, Jesus will restore to His own the dominion that was lost because of Adam (Heb. 2:5ff).



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Central Mountains Baptist Church

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Dominion

Warren Wiersbe comments on Genesis 1:26:

The creation of the first man is seen as a very special occasion, for there's a "consultation" prior to the event. "Let Us make man in Our image" sounds like the conclusion of a divine deliberation among the Persons of the Godhead. God couldn't

have been talking with the angels about His plans because angels weren't made in God's image ("Our image") and angels had nothing to do with the creation of Adam.

"And the Lord formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" (Gen. 2:7). The verb "formed" suggests the potter making a work of art in his skilled hands. The human body is indeed a work of art, an amazingly complex organism that only the wisdom of God could design and the power of God create.

The physical matter for Adam's body came from the ground, for the name "Adam" means "taken out of the ground"; but the life Adam





People

Dominion Conflict I

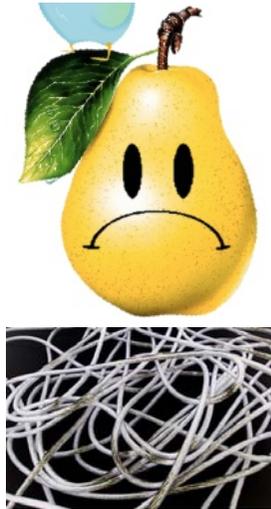
There are two main players when it comes to the control of life, events, and circumstances:

1. _____,

3 comments:

◆ We want to be _____,
Genesis 1:25-26, 28, 2:15

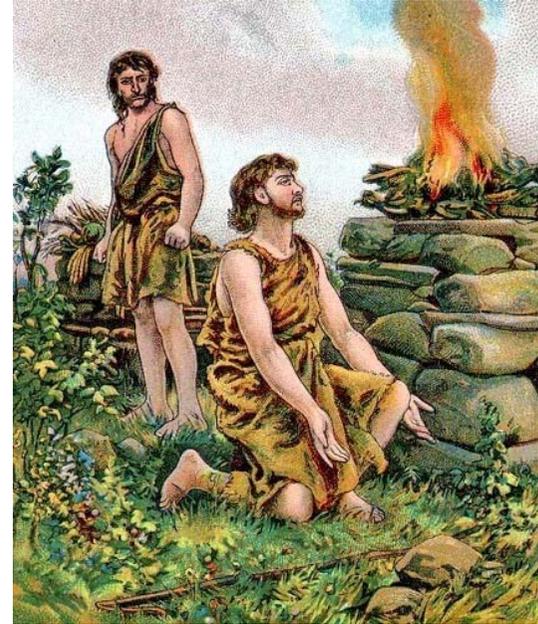
(James 4:1-2) "Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? {2} You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. ..."



◆ We can't _____ much, Genesis 3:16-19, 1:28,
(Romans 5:5) "... because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us."
(Galatians 5:22-23) "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, {23} gentleness, self-control. ..."
(Isaiah 46:10) "... My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,""



◆ The conflict produces _____,
Genesis 3:6-10, 21, 4:1-6



(Hebrews 4:13) "And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account."
(James 1:20) "for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God."
(1 Peter 5:8) "... your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."
(1 Peter 5:8) "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."
(1 Corinthians 10:13) "No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."
(Matthew 6:27-28) "Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? {28} "So why do you worry about clothing? ..."

2. _____, [Next time]

