

IN HIS IMAGE

Jesus was made in the brightness of the glory of God, and fashioned after the express image of His person (Hebrews 1:2,3), while at the same time Jesus appeared as a man. This confirms the statement of Genesis 1:26, that God made man in His image and after His own likeness.

Before the sentence of death had been placed upon man through sin, he ate of the fruit of the garden of Eden, but after having sinned, He was driven out and a sword placed to keep the way of the tree of life, for fear of his eating, and life thereby being eternally perpetuated (Gen. 3:23,24).

Mankind today is living the natural fleshly life patterned after the first Adam, and during this brief period he is given opportunity to strive for that perfect state, that spiritual nature, fashioned after the second Adam which is Christ.

In speaking of the resurrection of the dead through Jesus, we read as follows: "It is sown in corruption: it is raised in incorruption: it is sown in dishonor: it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: it is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body.....And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit, that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first

man is of the earth earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven.....And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly"(I Cor. 15:42-49).

From the foregoing, the fact is plainly set forth that as we have borne the image of the earthy, the first Adam, we will also bear the image of Jesus, the second Adam. The Bible giving us an account, as it does, of many events connected with Christ after his resurrection, we know considerable of that eternal state to which man will be exalted when fashioned after the likeness of the Son of God. Jesus is our pattern here, and to be fashioned like him there, our every step must be in his path, and beholding as we do, his labor of love, and his precious life we will then finally be transformed to that image.

We read again, "Our conversation is in heaven, from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body" (Phil. 3:20,21). Turning to Luke 24:13 to 43, we have a remarkable account of the actions of Jesus while in the immortal state, after his resurrection from the dead, wherein he walked with the disciples from Jerusalem to Emmaus, a distance of almost eight miles. He talked with them and showed them his hands and his feet, and also ate the honeycomb

and fish. As our bodies are to be changed and fashioned after the image of him, these same characteristics will be possessed by the faithful in his kingdom. Thomas would not believe it was the Lord Jesus, however, until he had thrust his hand into his side and felt the spear marks there (John 20:24 to 29). Then he believed. In the following chapter the narration is given of the apostles meeting Jesus again on the sea shore and how they recognized him as their Lord and Master. They knew Jesus after his resurrection from the dead because they had known him before, and so it will be with us. We will recognize our friends and loved ones there, because we have known them here, and while they will appear with the same features, speak with the same familiar voice, still they will be spiritual, immortal and incorruptible, never again to die if faithful unto death.

In looking upon the faces of multitudes, we could never see one that looked exactly like our father, our mother, or any of our dear loved ones, and for the very purpose that we would know each other there, God has stamped upon the features of every individual an expression different from every other. The kingdom of God is a real kingdom, with real tangible beings, where we will meet and greet our loved ones in the same form we knew them

here, and as Jesus ate the fish and the honey comb, so will we eat there. We read in Revelation 22:2, and are plainly told, of the tree of life again growing and bringing forth twelve kinds of fruit as food for the saved. In verse 14 it says that only those who keep the commandments of God will eat of the tree of life. Jesus kept all of these commandments.

Space forbids further testimony in this little tract, but we hope the reader will commence in this life, if he has not already, to be like Jesus, and finally be changed to his image to live in the kingdom of God. There death will never come, forms will never grow old, and with our loved ones we can live forever and ever. For this excellent glory "we all with open face, beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image, from glory to glory, even as by the spirit of the Lord"(II Cor. 3:18).

"We shall be like him"(I John 3:2).