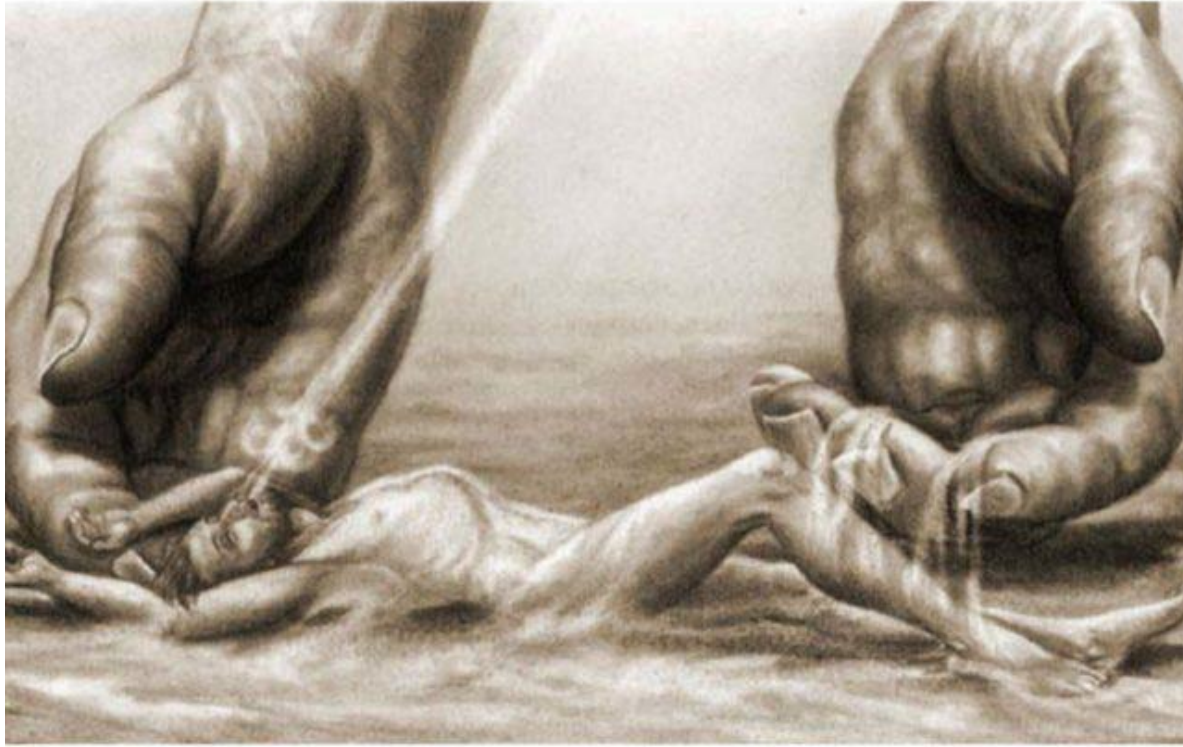




# You Are Stamped with God's Image

Chapter 2 Unshakable Hope



What statement in the video affected you the most?

## Read Genesis 1: 26-29 NIV

**26** Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals,<sup>[a]</sup> and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

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

**28** God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

**29** Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.

**30** And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.

What is the significance of the creation of men and women being the pinnacle of the creation story?

What characteristics do humans have that reflect God’s image?





## Malachi 3:3 God's image seen in us



That week, the woman called a silversmith and made an appointment to watch him at work. She didn't mention anything about the reason for her interest beyond her curiosity about the process of refining silver.



As she watched the silversmith, he held a piece of silver over the fire and let it heat up.

He explained that in refining silver, one needed to hold the silver in the middle of the fire where the flames were hottest as to burn away all the impurities.

She asked the silversmith if it was true that he had to sit there in front of the fire the whole time the silver was being refined.

The man answered that yes, he not only had to sit there holding the silver, but he had to keep his eyes on the silver the entire time it was in the fire. If the silver was left a moment too long in the flames, it would be destroyed.



The woman was silent for a moment.  
Then she asked the silversmith,  
“How do you know when the silver is fully refined?”



He smiled at her and answered:  
“Oh, that’s easy, when I see my image in it.”



**Each of us is made in God's image, and carry some of His attributes.**







religion and health and wealth and disabilities impact our image?

How do age and race and politics and




# How can we view our enemies

“The person who hates you most has some good in him; even the nation that hates you most has some good in it; even the race that hates you most has some good in it. And when you come to the point that you look in the face of every man and see deep down within him what religion calls ‘the image of God,’ you begin to love him in spite of. No matter what he does, you see God’s image there. There is an element of goodness that he can never slough off.”

Martin Luther King Jr - Loving Your Enemies



# How we must view our enemies



Love your enemies

Bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 5:44-45 KJV

## Read Colossians 3:5-10

New International Version

**5** Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. **6** Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.<sup>[a]</sup> **7** You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. **8** But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. **9** Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices **10** and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

**How does Paul connect the idea of the ‘new self’ to the truth of your role as God’s image bearer?**

# Read 2 Corinthians 3:18

New International Version

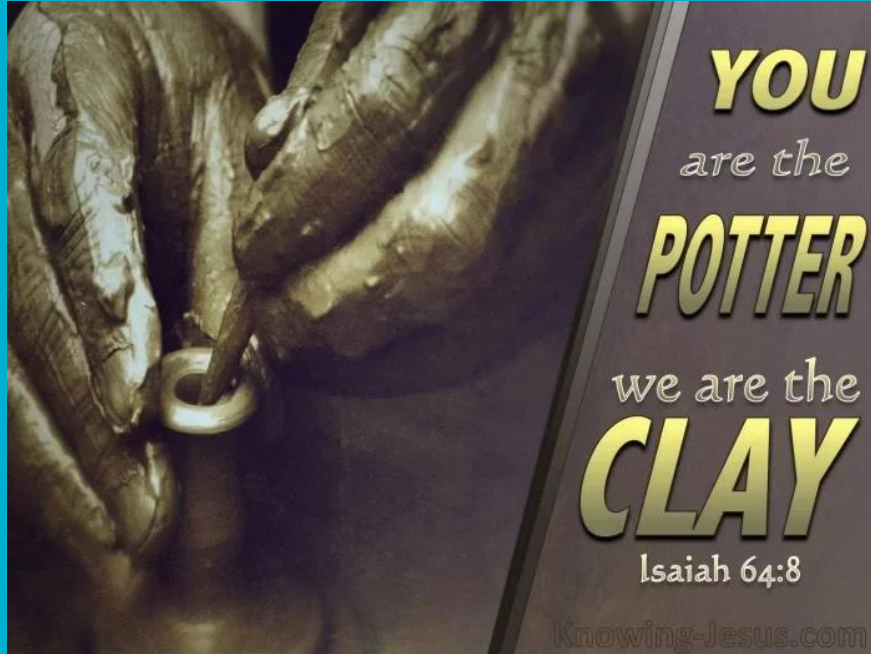
**18** And we all, who with unveiled faces reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

How are you being transformed into the image of God?





# Treasure in Clay Jars



## 2 Corinthians 4:7-9

NRSV

**7** But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. **8** We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; **9** persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;

He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time.

**2 Timothy 1:9**



Sanctification describes the progressive work of God to shape us into His image

## Sanctification: Process or Reality

- Reformed view

“Q. 35 What is sanctification?

A. Sanctification is the work of God’s free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin and live unto righteousness.”

The Shorter Catechism





“Our sanctification is a long  
and continued process.”

**C.H. SPURGEON**

[truthforlife.org](http://truthforlife.org)

**We fix our eyes on Jesus, the  
pioneer and perfecter of faith.**

Hebrews 12:2



A REASON FOR  
**HOPE**



When You Said,  
**Seek My Face**  
My Heart Said To You,  
Your Face  
**O, LORD**  
I Shall Seek

Psalm 27:8