Portion:

SCRIPTURES

• Gen.1:26-28; 2:21-25

• Romans 1:18-20

• Romans 1:21-32

Title:

CONCEIVED IN HIS IMAGE

- God's Visible Attributes
- The Gateway Sin
- A Cascade of Sins

INTRODUCTION:

With the creation of man in the Garden, God revealed His true identity. First, He manifested His nature inside of man and then He showed it to him, so man would know Yahweh as the one and only Creator. In other words, He made man in His own image. No person after that, regardless of their culture, creed, religion, place of origin, heritage, or nationality, could ever claim ignorance as an excuse for not recognizing Yahweh as the only true God.

In fact, there is a steep cost to any man who refuses to acknowledge Him. Eventually, God will turn him over to his own depraved thoughts. The price of his foolishness is that the natural light in his heart grows dim, until it becomes completely dark. From there he will be tempted to worship just about anything: other men, animals, insects, and even inanimate objects. Afterwards, he will

become obsessed with lust, especially sexual lust. This obsession will cascade into every type of sexual perversion, including gender confusion. Then, sexual sin will open the gateway to every other type of iniquity.

God's true identity can be understood only because He chose to reveal Himself to us by displaying His hidden nature—His invisible attributes. His divine nature is distinguished by three distinct persons unified in one God, and thus, when He created man in His own image, man was formed as three distinct persons fused into one human nature. That is what it means for God to have manifested His nature inside of us. At Adam's origin, God immediately established his plurality and told "them to be fruitful; multiply and fill the earth." However, in that very moment, all that was observable in the Garden was one male human. There must have been something more to Adam than meets the eye. Hidden within the one man at creation were two additional persons.

To avoid potential confusion, God acknowledged that it was "not good" for man to remain alone. In other words, if mankind was created to truly know God, Adam couldn't stay ignorant of his hidden nature—his invisible attributes. To reveal the hidden persons within Adam, God first removed Eve and showed her to Adam; the woman was no longer invisible. Then, God introduced marriage between the man and the woman. Through marriage, the man and

woman become one flesh. It's as if Eve was never removed from Adam, but remained in him. Marriage established that they were not meant to be considered separate; they remained one as God is one. What began in appearance as one person, alone in the Garden, oddly instructed to multiply, culminated when the couple, after being reunited as one flesh in marriage, were blessed to make the third person visible; "With the Lord's help, I have given birth to a son." God's invisible attributes, three persons in one, were manifested in man and revealed to us when the hidden woman was brought to the man, reunited with him in marriage, and the hidden son was born—three persons in one. Within Adam at creation was the human family, the image of the invisible God who had revealed His nature as a divine family. That is what it means that God "manifest in them and showed it to them."

But, men would eventually suppress this truth and come against God by attacking the family—thus denying God's revealed identity. As a result, mankind would be plagued with every type of sexual immorality, would absurdly contradict that there are only two genders; would reject the sanctity of marriage; and would, with abortion, reframe murder of the unborn as, 'a reproductive right that needs protecting.' Consequently, abortion became accepted as a valid form of birth-control, as opposed to what it really is—homicide. The origin of all this madness is the deliberate denial that

man is created in God's image. The result is the failure to recognize the one true God. The blatant refusal to acknowledge God opens the gateway to sexual immorality and then every other atrocious sin that follows. Isn't this precisely what we are witnessing today?

In conclusion, we can make a few definitive statements. Be warned; if you reject any of these truths, you do not worship Yahweh, the God of the Bible, nor His Son Jesus, no matter what you call yourself: there are only two genders and those genders are genetically determined by God; marriage exists only between a man and a woman and godly sexual expression exists only within the confines of marriage—between a man and a woman. The moment of conception marks the beginning of a new human life and abortion as a form of birth control or to manage an inconvenient pregnancy is murder. If you deny any of these truths, you deny that man was created in God's image—you deny the identity of the one true God!

The 1916 Project links the origins of Planned Parenthood to the eugenics movement. Eugenics is the study of how to arrange reproduction, within a human population, to increase the occurrence of characteristics regarded as desirable. This laid the groundwork for a modern "culture of death." 1916 is the year Margaret Sanger opened her first birth control clinic—a pivotal moment in American history. Planned Parenthood founder Margaret

Sanger's eugenic and racist ideologies continue to influence issues like abortion and the breakdown of the family today.

GOD'S VISIBLE ATTRIBUTES

1. God's image is clearly recognizable!

A. God manifest Himself inside of mankind...

(1) Yet... Men have denied the obvious.

(a) Suppressing the truth

1. "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known of God is revealed in them, for God revealed it to them." Romans 1:18-19

2. Critical Questions:

- a) What truth is being suppressed?
- b) What is known of God that was manifest in us?
- c) How has God shown it to us?
- d) What is the penalty for denying this reality?
- e) Facts:
 - 1) He has invisible qualities (hidden attributes).
 - 2) They were made clear to see at creation.
 - 3) He Revealed them in hidden attributes of man.
 - 4) There is a penalty for denying this reality.

B. The Creation Gospel

- (1) The Invisible Made Visible
 - (a) No Excuse!
 - 1. "The invisible [attributes] of [God] since the creation of the world are clearly seen, being [understood by] the things that are made, even His everlasting power and [Godhead], that they may be without excuse."

 Romans 1:20
 - (b) What invisible qualities became clear so there would be no excuse? God said...
 - 1. "God said, "Let's make man in Our image, after Our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the sky, and over the livestock, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." God created man in His own image. In God's image He created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them. God said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."" Genesis 1:26-28 WEBUS

- a) The Creation Gospel (the witness): God's invisible attributes are best perceived by observing two things...
 - 1) **First,** everything that was created in the natural universe clearly demonstrates His everlasting power and divinity.
 - 2) **Second,** He clearly revealed the three attributes of Himself hidden inside the Godhead by manifesting the three attributes of man hidden inside of Adam.
 - 3) He did this so that all men would be without excuse; no man would ever have a legitimate reason to deny who is the one and only God."
- 2. Man was created in God's image (to know Him).
 - a) The human family reflects the image of God (This testifies to the identity of our Creator, how He operates, and how He wants us to know Him).
 - Draw your attention back to the garden in Genesis. Creation holds the key to God's invisible attributes and how they became clearly recognizable.

- 2) Once you look there, things become obvious, and there can be no excuse for your ignorance about God's identity.
- 3) God called Adam "them" (Adam had male & female DNA within him when he was created).
- 4) All of human creation was contained in Adam (as in God).
- 5) God told Adam to multiply **BEFORE** Eve (the female DNA) was extracted from him!
- b) **Reveals:** within Adam was the image of God. "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes..."
 - 1) God: (Father, Spirit, Son)
 - 2) Man: (male, female, child)
 - 3) No excuse to be ignorant about God's identity.
- 3. God desired for us to know Him, the inner workings of His character, so He revealed what was hidden in Adam. (Adam was a "them"... (Gen. 2:18-22)
 - a) "Yahweh God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make him a helper comparable to him.""(Genesis 2:18)

- 4. "Man's invisible attributes needed to be revealed, so we could understand the 3 persons of the **Godhead**, and no one could claim ignorance as an excuse."
 - a) "Yahweh God caused the man [Adam] to fall into a deep sleep. As the man slept, He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Yahweh God made a woman from the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man [the invisible become visible]." Genesis 2:21-22 WEBUS
 - 1) The invisible becomes visible! The revealing of the nature of the Godhead (3 persons in one) by revealing the nature of Adam (3 persons in one). It was designed to remove all doubt about the identity of the only true God. No excuses!
 - 2) The **Woman** was made visible... This is what the infinite Godhead decided was the BEST way for humans know Him! (**Once you see this, you will never look at gender, marriage, family, & children the same way again!)**
- 5. After Yahweh breathed life into Adam...
 - a) Yahweh tells us that Adam would not be fully understood if you could not recognize what was

- inside of him—"It is not good for man to be alone..." (Genesis 2:18) **NOTE: Adam was not** alone; he was with God. He was not alone, instead, he was unaware!
- b) In other words—Adam could not (nor we) possibly recognize the inner workings of the powerful creative force inside of him (us), unless God showed it to him (us).
- c) So, Yahweh extracted female DNA from Adam and showed us what that looks like in human form, all the qualities of the female part of Adam, the once hidden attribute inside of him.
- d) SCIENTIFIC FACT: Men possess male and female DNA. Woman possess ONLY female DNA.
- e) So... you can extract a woman from a man, but you cannot extract a man from a woman.
 - 1) The God of all creation (the ONLY God) identified Himself as a Divine Family (Father, Spirit, and Son), and He created man in that same Image (the human family) so we could know Him.
 - 2) Question: How can Man remain ONE as God is ONE, even after God separates his parts for us

- to see their individual features, all while each part remains recognizable as a distinct piece of the original whole? "... Yahweh God made a woman and He brought her to the man..."
- (2) After Yahweh extracted female DNA from Adam and revealed the once hidden woman (*brought her to the man*)...
 - (a) How did they remain ONE as God is ONE? **His Image!** The Answer is...**Marriage**
 - 1. "The man said, "This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh. She will be called 'woman,' because she was taken out of Man." Therefore a man will leave his father and his mother, and will join with his wife, and they will be one flesh. The man and his wife were both naked, and they were not ashamed." Genesis 2:23-25 WEBUS
 - a) Eve was taken and created from Adam's DNA, separated out, or "set-apart" from Adam.
 - b) But, in the most glorious way, through marriage, the two are still able to operate as ONE.
 - c) Can you now understand why God, who is ONE, can also be viewed as three separate "characters"?

- d) That is why God created Marriage and the Family, all so we could know Him—so we could understand His image.
- (b) **Children** complete the family...
 - "Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, "I have acquired a man from the Lord."" Genesis 4:1 NKJV
 - 2. How does God make these invisible attributes "clearly seen"?
 - a) He extracts Eve from Adam—presents her to him!
 - b) The two reconnect in Marriage—they remain One flesh.
 - Then the male and female intimately recombine to form a child.
 - d) This is the Image of God!
- (3) What did Jesus teach about the importance of His Father's Image as expressed in gender and marriage? It is for this reason....
 - (a) (Gender & Marriage) "He answered, "Haven't you read that He who made them from the beginning made them male and female [Genesis 1:27], and said, 'For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall be joined to his wife; and the two shall become one

flesh'? [Genesis 2:24] So that they are no more two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, don't let man tear apart."" Matthew 19:4-6

- 1. For what reason?
 - a) Because Adam was made both male and female...
 - b) And because he had hidden attributes...
 - c) And because those hidden attributes were revealed when the woman was extracted from Adam and she was presented to him!
 - d) And because even with the separation, God needed us to understand that they remained One as He is One...He gave us MARRIAGE! "The two shall become one flesh."
 - e) And Jesus let us know in no uncertain terms that this oneness CAN NEVER BE SEPARATED!
 - 1) "God created man in his own image. In God's image he created him; male and female he created them." Genesis 1:27 WEBUS
 - 2) "Yahweh God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make him a helper comparable to him."" Genesis 2:18 WEBUS

- 3) "Therefore a man will leave his father and his mother, and will join with his wife, and they will be one flesh." Genesis 2:24 WEBUS
- 4) "So that they are **no more two, but one flesh**.

 What therefore God has **joined together, don't let man tear apart.**"" Matthew 19:6 WEBUS
- 2. **Jesus' anointed clarity**! "For this reason..."
 - a) This is of God and it CANNOT be changed!
 - b) The Image of God is the inseparable family!
- 3. Do not overlook this MOST CRITICAL piece!
 - a) "For this reason..." What reason? Because God's image expressed in Adam was both male and female, and for us to fully understand what that means, He extracted the female to show us her distinct characteristics. And to remind us that in no way does this extraction diminish the ONENESS of God, He gives us marriage which "recombines" the male and female as ONE! And Jesus ADDS His anointed clarity—This is of God and it CANNOT be separated!
 - b) To understand the true magnitude of Marriage, and the fruit of marriage, in a world that diminishes
 Holy Matrimony to a temporary contract and

business arrangement, and reduces childbearing to a "personal choice" to carry or eliminate a blob of cells, you must recognize this: **Marriage portrays the Image of God!**

- c) Let that settle in for a bit. "For this reason", because God wants to express Himself, so you can know Him and His nature, He gives us marriage and the fruit of marriage—the Family!
- a) "What God has joined together, let not man separate."

C. <u>Suppression of the Creation Gospel: The Enemy's Chief</u> <u>Strategy (Sin perverted the Creation Gospel)!</u>

- (1) If unveiling the invisible is how God reveals His image...
 - (a) What is the best strategy to DESTROY that image?
 - 1. "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known of God is revealed [manifest] in them, for God revealed it to them." [He brought her to the man (Genesis 2:22), showed Eve to Adam;]." Romans 1:18-19 WEBUS
- (2) Suppress Truth: Pervert gender & marriage, & murder the fruit...

- (a) Forbid Marriage
 - 1. "Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth." I Timothy 4:1-3 NKJV
 - 2. A time will come when marriage is no longer viewed as beneficial or necessary.
 - a) Anyone notice any of that happening now?
- (b) Your role as a minister of truth is to instruct against such heresies!
 - 1. "If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed. But reject profane and old wives' fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness." I Timothy 4:6-7 NKJV
- (c) Kill the children... <u>Abortion Statistics</u> (<u>worldometer.info</u>73 million/YEAR)

- (d) The roots of this atrocity?
 - "because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened." Romans 1:21 NKJV
 - 2. [Expanded Explanation] "Although they were well aware of God's true identity and nature, they still refused to glorify Him as God; they refused to thank Him for making Himself known. This utter rebellion affected their brains. Their ability to think and reason became impossible; the ultimate expression of such futility in humans is the rejection of God, the deliberate choice to remove Him from your life, what is an expression of total vanity. And since the human heart is really the visceral image of how we think, this non-sensical foolish approach to life seeps into the heart which turns dark." Romans 1:21 TIBV
 - 3. Futile Thoughts and Darkened Hearts
 - a) The Godhead's invisible attributes (a triune God) were made clearly visible by what He made (the human family), so no one has an excuse to not know Him. (v. 1:20)

- b) Decide to not give Him glory and instead give way to useless and worthless thinking.
- c) Hearts become black with denial and pride!
- (e) Change God into AN IMAGE of your own making.
 - "Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things." Romans 1:22-23 NKJV
 - 2. [Expanded Explanation] "In their own minds, these God-deniers believe they are wise, but they are truly most ignorant. To call them fools is an insult to fools because you simply have to believe a total delusion to trade the awareness of the glory of the incorruptible God, the image of God revealed in the three parts of the Godhead that's been manifest in mankind and clearly displayed in the human family, for the likeness a false god. Their delusional minds have fashioned gods out of all sorts of things: the image of corruptible defective sinful men, and of birds, and of four-footed animals, and all sorts of creeping things like insects." Romans 1:22-23 TIBV
 - 3. Fools!

- a) An attempt to change the glory of the ONE TRUEGOD into ANOTHER IMAGE!
- b) To idolize anything but the real God.
 - 1) To Know God and deny Him! (Romans 1:2)
 - 2) To Change God into AN IMAGE of your own making. (Romans 1:22-23)
- (f) To dishonor the natural use of the body
 - 1. "Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever.

 Amen." Romans 1:24-25 NKJV
 - 2. [Expanded Explanation] "They insisted long enough on chasing false gods, therefore God finally gave them over to the lusts of their darkened hearts, to uncleanness and impurities, to such a degree that they would use their bodies to dishonor and abuse each other. This all stems from one root, the willingness to exchange the truth of God for a lie, and to worship and serve the creature rather than the Creator, who is the only one to be praised forever.

 Amen." Romans 1:24-25 TIBV

3. Exchange the Truth for a Lie!

- a) Once you are willing to ignore the truth about the real God long enough, God will give you over to your own desires.
- b) It is not clear how long God will tolerate this rebellion, so it's safer to just not rebel at all!
- c) There can be no worse fate than for Yahweh to give you over to your own sin—fueled by your desire to worship yourself, rather than your Creator.
- d) They've become futile in their thoughts and their hearts have become darkened.
- e) For those who still have some sense of conviction, read all of Psalm 19. "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork." "Keep back your servant from presumptuous sin; let them not have dominion over me!" (vv. 1, 13)
- f) What does it mean for Yahweh to give you over to uncleanness, in the lusts of your heart, to dishonor your body?

THE GATEWAY SIN

2. The Root Manifestation

A. **Sexual Immorality**

- (1) Gender confusion (THE GATEWAY SIN!)
 - (a) For this reason God gave them up to **vile passions**.
 - 1. "For this reason God gave them up to vile passions.

 For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men,

 leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due." Romans

 1:26-27 NKJV
 - a) If there is **one sin** that is most indicative of the violation of the Creation Gospel.
 - b) Violation of fundamental truth (man, woman, marriage, child): a denial of Yahweh's existence.
 - c) The greatest crises in the world today... The destruction of the visible Image of God!
 - 2. [Expanded Explanation] "Their total rejection of the true image of God is the reason for what came next. It's the gateway sin that leads to so many others. God gave them over to the vile passions of sexual immorality. Women exchanged their natural sexual desires and attraction to men, for that which is

against nature, the attraction to other women. And then they began to function like it was normal for women to have sexual relationships with women. Likewise also men, leaving what was the natural desires and attraction to women, instead burned with lust for other men. And then they acted on that lust and engaged in sexual activities, men with men. It's completely inappropriate and shameful, an error that is totally avoidable. But the outcome of acting on such lustful perversities is the penalty they deserve, what you'd expect from a holy God, against those living out such an abomination." Romans 1:26-27 TIBV

3. For what reason?

- a) They knew the image of the true God but did not give Him glory!
- b) They changed the image of God in their futile minds!
- c) They worshiped creation rather than the Creator!
- 4. For such, God surrendered these rebels over to their Vile Passions!
 - a) We will observe the sinful decline of mankind in detail here, but if there is one sin that is most

- indicative of the violation of the Creation Gospel, it is found in verses 26–27. THE GATEWAY SIN!
- b) Both women and men exchange the NATURAL

 USE of the opposite gender (creation's design) for
 what is AGAINST NATURE, the desire for the
 same gender (creation's decline).
- 5. There is no respect for God's creative strategy more basic than the recognition of the natural functions and relationship of a male and a female.
 - a) Together, they are created in Yahweh's image: be one, be fruitful and fill the earth, be rulers over creation itself (Genesis 1:27-28).
 - b) "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;" Rom. 1:28
 - c) Violation of this fundamental truth (man, woman, marriage, and the murder of unborn babies) is a denial of the very existence of Yahweh.
 - d) If you insist on denying the truth of who God is and His ways, even though Creation itself testifies to it...it will not turn out well for you when your heart becomes darkened.

- e) Violate the Creation Gospel: You will wind up worshipping creation itself; your normal heterosexual desires will be twisted into homosexual desires (and all sorts of other perverse behaviors associated with gender confusion); and the doorway is open to all other vile behaviors (THE GATEWAY SIN!)
- 6. After **sexual immorality,** the gateway sin, the door is wide open and a Cascade of Sins follows: From the gateway sin to every other vile behavior!
 - immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful;"

 Romans 1:29-31 NKJV
 - b) [Expanded Explanation] "The first sin on a long list of sins that the reprobate mind is given over to is sexual immorality; again we see it is the gateway to a long list of atrocities. What comes next is an abundance of: wickedness, covetousness, malice,

envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil habits, secret slandering, backbiting, hate toward God, insolence, arrogance, and boasting. They become inventors of evil schemes, disobedient to parents, void of understanding, and violators of covenants. They lose all natural affection for others and become unforgiving and unmerciful." Romans 1:29-31 TIBV

(2) Review

- (a) Today's greatest assault: the dismantling of God's image by destroying the human family.
 - 1. Gender is fluid!
 - 2. Marriage is irrelevant!
 - 3. The life of a child is optional!
- (3) The Remedy (What's next?)
 - (a) Since the fall, creation has been in a steady decline. But, Paul reveals what the restoration looks like.
 - "...creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption

into the glorious liberty of the children of God..." Romans 8:19-22

- 2. Delivered from the Bondage of Corruption (restoration of all things): revealing of the sons.
 - a) The fall and the curse (Gen. 3) is still manifesting.
 - b) **Corruptions ultimate manifestation:** denial of God's image—destruction of the human family!
 - c) Creation delivered from the bondage of corruption, the RESTORATION of God's image—the Family!
 - d) [Malachi 4:6] "turn the hearts...[lest the curse over creation remains]."
 - e) See: <u>The Unveiling</u> for a full length teaching on the restoration.
 - f) See: <u>In the Image of God</u> for a full length teaching on the Image of God.
- (4) The *1916 Project (The Spark of Light at Conception)
 - (a) Links the origins of Planned Parenthood to the

 **eugenics movement. This laid the groundwork for a
 modern "culture of death." Planned Parenthood founder

 Margaret Sanger's eugenic and racist ideologies
 continue to influence issues like abortion and the
 breakdown of the family today.

- (a) *1916: the year Sanger opened her first birth control clinic—a pivotal moment in American history.
- (b) **Eugenics: the study of how to arrange reproduction within a human population to increase the occurrence of characteristics regarded as desirable.