

THE FALLEN STATE OF MANKIND (#1)

Last week we learned that the worth God sees in mankind that caused Him to send His only Son to die on the cross and causes Him to send missionaries to die on foreign soil today is **TSELEM DEMUTH** (in image according to likeness of the Godhead (Gen.1:26-27).

We have learned that Tselem Demuth continued to exist after Adam's Original Sin (AOS) from passages like (Gen.9:3; 1 Cor.11:7; James 3:9).

We also learned from our Genesis study that Tselem Demuth was decreed as a DNA (genetic code) for mankind through-out human history (Gen.1:26-27).

This lesson will answer how the fall of Adam (AOS) affected Tselem Demuth.

This lesson will study seven aspects of how the Fallen State of Mankind affected Tselem Demuth.

1. I believe the answer is found in the concept of the word image (tselem or eikon).

An image is visible to mankind on the coin of Matt.22:20, on the statue of Rev.13:14-15, on the idols of Rom.1:23 and on the picture of shadow Christology of Heb.10:1

God said - "Let Us make man in Our image according to Our likeness." (Gen.1:26) The words Us and Ours are first plural and is a reference to the Godhead (God, the Holy Father and God, the Holy Son, and God, the Holy Spirit).

We know that two members of the Godhead are spirits and invisible (God, the Holy Father/ John 4:24) and obviously the Holy Spirit (Rom.8:16).

2. We have learned that the second member of the Godhead, the Holy Son, is the only visible image of the Godhead.

(John 14:9; 1:18) "Philip, he who has seen Me has seen the Father; how do you say, 'Show us the Father?'" [Jesus to Philip]

(John 10:30) "I and the Father are one."

(Col.1:15) "**He is the image of the invisible** God, the firstborn of all creation."

(Heb.1:3) "He is the radiance of His glory and **the exact representation of His nature**, and upholds all things by His power. When he had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high."

(2 Cor.4:4) "In whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."

3. Tselem Demuth is the worth of the human soul for God is why Christianity evangelizes mankind everywhere in the world (Mark 8:36-37; Matt.6:26).

We don't evangelize fish or birds or land animals with chayyah nephesh because they were created by *min* [species] **and not by Tselem Demuth** [in image according to likeness of the Godhead]

(Matt.16:26) “For what will a man be profited, if he gains the whole world, and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?”

(Acts 2:41) When the early Church evangelized mankind, this is how it was described – “And there were added that day about three thousand souls (psuche).” [Day of Pentecost] (Acts 1:8)
(1 Thess.5:23)

4. Fallen man’s soul with Tselem Demuth needs to be saved in order to be restored to the image of the Holy Son of God.

(1 Cor.15:22) “For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all shall be made alive.” (Rom.5:12-21)

Fallen mankind (AOS) lost communion with God the Father; and it is only reestablished through the Holy Son, Jesus Christ.

(Rom.3:23-24) “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus.” (2 Cor.3:18; 1 Pet.1:21; 1 John 1:3)

5. What we lost in AOS, we regain by regeneration in gospel of Jesus Christ (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; 2 Cor.4:4-6; Isa.43:7).

1 of the 50 things we regain is the **Son of God** -

(John 1:12) “But as many as received Him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.” (Rom.8:15-17; **Matt.11:27**; 2 Cor.5:17).

Divine sonship is restored to Tselem Demuth through union with the second member of the Godhead, the Lord Jesus Christ.

(Rom.8:29 “For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren. (Col.1:27)

6. Tselem Demuth was originally designed for eternal life but was lost in AOS (1 Cor.15:22; John 3:16).

There is no eternal life apart from faith in the second member of the Godhead, the Lord Jesus Christ

(1 John 5:11-13) “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes in Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.”
(2 Cor.5:17) (John 5:24)

7. Spiritual growth maturity brings the image into the visible likeness of Jesus Christ.

(Col.3:10) “And have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created Him.” (2 Cor.3:18; 2 Pet.3:18; Heb.5:13-14; Gal.4:19)

(Eph.4:13) “Until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a **mature man**, to the measure of the stature which belongs to **the fullness of Christ**.”