

In Our Image #2

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Today, we're going to continue with the message of *In "Our" Image*. And as we saw last time, this was derived from the Scripture in:

Genesis 1:26: "And God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness...'"

We were talking about Artificial Intelligence, understanding what it is and how it works, and the similarities between the things that we see today with:

- machine-learning
- neural-networks
- all these foundational blocks
- the infrastructure of the cloud
- the Internet
- the computing capacity that we have now with these servers
- with all of the technology that is being developed

We're going to continue reading the Scriptures and see what the Bible says about that. I think we've learned enough in the last message about what AI is and its potential, because, really, the possibilities are endless. Any task of any person literally could be replaced by one of these machines eventually. Whether it's those that work:

- in thinking
- in planning
- in analytics
- in interconnectedness of all the business models for supply chain
- etc.

if we're talking about

- driverless cars
- driverless trucks
- technology where everyone literally is replaceable in the eyes of some people

That's where this is going. That's where some people envisioned this going. Some have actually sounded the alarm about the technology that is being developed. Again, it's not just computing power, this is really creating beings, humanoids, robots ***in our image***. That's what this is about. Let's go to the Scriptures to see what God says about these things.

Exo. 20—the Ten Commandments, because we're going to see something very, very important. Right at the beginning of the Ten Commandments, in:

Exodus 20:2: 'I *am* the LORD your God Who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. **You shall have no other gods**

before Me" (vs 2-3).

We know that we were made in the image and likeness of God, with the potential to become part of the God Family. Even in Psa. 82, God says that 'you are gods':

- talking about the potential
- talking about the likeness
- talking about all of these things

But it says, "...you shall have no other gods before Me."

What some of the scientists are creating and attempting to create is basically humanoids and robots:

- that look like us
- that think like us
- that process like us
- that work like us

because they're trying to create this utopia!

Mankind is now starting again in this arena. They're trying to *play God*; trying to create beings after ***their own kind***, which is what God did. He said 'He made man *in His own image, after His own likeness.*' Now, ***we*** are creating beings after ***our own likeness!***

Verse 4: "You shall not make for yourselves any graven image, or any likeness of *anything* that is in the heavens above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the waters under the earth. You shall not bow yourself down to them, nor serve them, for I, the LORD your God *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me" (vs 4-5).

Who are the ones who hate God? *Those that are atheists!* Most of the people in this, in the scientific circles are atheists, or at a minimum, agnostics. This is what happens when people set themselves:

- against God
- in place of God
- instead of God

Trying to create beings that resemble human beings, with the capacity to do what God created, and the most wonderful thing that He created on the earth is:

- the capacity to think
- the capacity to process information
- to make decisions
- to make judgments

We're not even going to talk about all of the dangers that are already happening because of AI:

- all of the suicides
- all of the things that are already happening because of AI

Everything that man creates is a double-edged sword. It could be put to good use; it could be put to bad news. But when we're going in this direction, God is actually saying that **He doesn't want us creating images of any likeness of anything!**

When we're creating humanoids and robots, and there's a robot in China that is ready to be sold next year, where they want to be able to have a baby **to gestate a human within that robot!** And that robot providing all things, all the nutrients and everything. We're getting to those levels!

Then God says, v 6: "But showing mercy to thousands of those who love Me and keep My Commandments."

IE we're not loving God, **IE** instead of loving God and trying to connect with God, with a higher intelligence, **as God the Father and Jesus Christ are**, we're trying to connect with:

- our own thoughts
- our own devices
- our own evil

Because all of the AI, it's taking from everything that man has created, and everything that man has ever said.

God does not like any image or any likeness; **He prohibited that!**

Deut. 4—this is the retelling of the Law. And this is where God, again, reaches out to His people, and He gives them all of these instructions. Moses is telling the people what God did.

Deuteronomy 4:12: "And the LORD spoke to you out of the midst of the fire...."

This is what we were talking about, when we were just reading in Exo. 20.

"...You heard the voice of the words, but saw no likeness, only a voice. And He declared to you His covenant which He commanded you to perform, *even* the Ten Commandments. And He wrote them on two tablets of stone. And the LORD commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and judgments so that you might do them in the land where you go over to possess it. Therefore, take good heed to yourselves, for you did not see any form *at all* on the day the LORD spoke to you in Horeb out of the midst of the fire" (vs 12-15).

Why? *Because He knows us!* He knows mankind's proclivity to create something *and worship it!* **That's exactly what is happening now!**

Just because it doesn't take the form of an ancient idol doesn't mean that it's not 'a god.' That it's not something that people are actually worshipping and dedicating all their time and efforts and putting everything into that idol.

Verse 16: "**Lest you act corruptly and make for yourselves a graven image...** [that's what we are in the business of doing now, graven images] ... the likeness of any figure... [the very first thing that He mentions here is]: ...the likeness of male or female..."

It's exactly what we have, the likeness of male and female. They are developing robots that they call 'humanoids,' and they're using silicone **to make them appear** as real as a person, and putting this Artificial Intelligence within it.

There are already records of people that have done this and have trained those machines. There was a person who was very wealthy, and his wife died. He created a robot, and trained that robot:

- to act like his wife
- to think like his wife
- to respond like his wife

They're using this for companionship, and they're using these robots for a lot of other things that we're not going to mention right now. We don't need to mention the kind of depravity and blasphemy, and all of the things that are going on using some of these tools. But that's the very first thing that he says here:

Verse 16: "...the likeness of male or female... [that's what they're doing] ...*or* the likeness of any beast on the earth, the likeness of any winged fowl that flies in the air, *or* the likeness of anything that creeps on the ground, the likeness of any fish in the waters beneath the earth" (vs 16-18).

People are doing that. They're doing that because that's how we learn. We learn things from nature. Airplanes were developed studying birds and how they fly; the aerodynamics and the speed and all of these things. But now it's developing things that are even superior to that like 'humanoids' or things that are based on what God has created but for our service, for our use. ***Because now scientists are 'playing God'*** and God does not like any of this. He doesn't want us to carve images.

And it's not just an image, now there are actual devices, and they're a "...likeness of any fish in the waters beneath the earth" (v 18).

They're already doing this. They're already creating things that are like under the water to do research. All of these things that were not possible before, because there was too much risk involved. Now they're using drones and robots and these artifacts with cameras, microphones, etc.

- to investigate
- to go deeper
- to go further
- to try to understand

and break the barriers that have never been broken before!

Verse 18: "The likeness of anything that creeps on the ground, the likeness of any fish in the waters beneath the earth; and *take heed*, lest you lift up your eyes to the heavens—when you see the sun, and the moon, and the stars, all the host of heaven..." (vs 18-19).

That's what we see; that's the major religions of the world.

- What is the symbol of the Muslims? *It's the moon!* The symbol of the Catholics is *the sun; sun-worship!*

We know it's supposedly the cross, but there's always a round circle around everything. That's in the cathedrals, and everything is sun-worship. Then the moon, like I mentioned with the Muslims, and then the stars. Even the Star of David and all of that.

"...all the host of heaven—lest you should be driven to worship them and serve them, which the LORD your God has divided *for signs and seasons* unto all nations under all the heavens. But the LORD has taken you and brought you out from the iron furnace, out of Egypt, to be to Him a people of His own possession, as *you are today*" (vs 19-20).

That's why we need to be very aware that this is what man is creating. They're creating things ***in their own image, in their own likeness!*** They're devoting all their attention to them. They're devoting all of these things, and God does not like man to do this. He forbade them from doing this; He forbade Israel from doing this.

Deu. 16—It's one short verse, but it's very, very telling of how God thinks and how He views some of these practices and things.

Deuteronomy 16:20: "You shall follow that which is altogether just so that you may live and inherit the land, which the LORD your God gives you. You shall not set up for yourself pillars of any trees near the altar of the LORD your God, which you shall make for yourself.... [we know idolatry] ***...Nor shall you set up any image, which thing the LORD your God hates***" (vs 20-22).

He hates these images, to worship them. Just because it takes a different form, doesn't mean it's not being worshipped. Just because it has other capabilities, and some benefits—because as we've heard from Fred all the time—it's true that ***Satan always comes with benefits!*** He doesn't come. trying to openly telling us:

- that he's going to deceive us
- that he's going to lead us astray
- that he's going to create more evil

because think about all the things that are coming up with Artificial Intelligence. One of the very first things that are coming up now are 'deep fakes' of people; that it looks like a video of the person. They can take a video of anybody and tell AI to make this a 'deep fake' of this person. Make him say these things, and it looks like that person is saying those things even using voice recognition.

Now they're used to be a saying 'seeing is believing'; ***that's no longer true!*** All the things that we even see, we don't know we can trust them. They're **AI-generated images. *That's what they're doing!***

God doesn't want ***any image***, that's what he's saying; graven image, carved image.

Verse 22: "Nor shall you set up ***any*** image, which *thing* the LORD your God hates."

We understand that it's to worship that. But the level of worship. And the level of deity that some of these things technologies are adopting, it's crazy. Not to mention where society, where the technocrats really want to take all of these things. They want to create. this utopia where the machines will do all the work and we have to do nothing.

That's not how God created us. It's in the very process of doing these things:

- of living
- of the trials
- of the tests
- of all of these things is how we learn

Deut. 27—we're going to see something very interesting in vs 14 & 15. But this is what we're talking about. In '***our***' image. Because now we are creating things in '***our***' image. We're 'playing God,' and instead of reaching to God. the Father and Jesus Christ.

We're actually reaching down to the inventions of our own hands to our own devices. Deut. 27 is toward the end of the book when things are getting wrapped up. Then God instructed Moses:

You're going to have these tribes on this mountain to bless, and these other tribes on

these mountains to curse there. You're going to pronounce these curses out loud.

Deuteronomy 27:14: "And the Levites shall solemnly pronounce and say to all the men of Israel with a loud voice... [v 15]: **...And all the people shall answer and say, 'Amen'**"—*meaning let it be so!*

Agreeing to those curses and agreeing to bring themselves, those curses, if they did that.

The very first thing, the very first curse that is pronounced.

Verse 15: "Cursed is the man that makes any graven or molten image, **an abomination to the LORD, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and puts it in a secret place.** **And all the people shall answer and say, 'Amen.'**"

Creating these images, creating these things is **an abomination to the Lord, and we understand it's in the context of:**

- worshipping them
- having other gods
- thinking that this is going to bring us benefits

Because they had gods for everything in Egypt! That's exactly why God took Israel out of that, and said:

- you're going to be a Holy people
- you're going to have a relationship with Me
- you're going to learn from Me—the only God in heaven—Who will interact with you:
 - ✓ through miracles
 - ✓ through real intervention I'm going to protect you
 - ✓ supernaturally deliver your enemies into your hands

This is what He was offering them! This is what we are being offered!

But the world is offering something else. The world is trying to offer a utopia where everything will work. All these machines are going to do all the work, because that's what we have now in factories and in warehouses:

- machines
- robotics
- automation

When we think about a tool, there is a fine line between when we have a tool that brings a benefit, and it's something.

But **WHEN** we start outsourcing thinking—that's exactly what Artificial Intelligence is—**THEN** there's a law of diminishing returns, where in the

short term we might, but in the long term we're not going to continue to develop our abilities. We're not going to continue to think, because it's in the thinking; it's in the doing when we learn and grow. ***That's how God designed us!***

Isaiah 44—here is a passage of Scripture that is very important for us to read. It will give us a lot of clarity of how God looks at these things. Really to put things in perspective when there are these inventions that are not really going to augment humanity. That's the way that it is mentioned and sold.

But in reality, there is no human that is not replaceable. It's not just about not progressing in technological advancements. That's not what it is. ***It's what is behind the intent of creating these machines! What is the intent*** of creating these artifacts, and this utopian society where everything is with machines?

Everything that man creates, as you know, can be used for evil or for good. We've seen it with the Internet. We've seen it with all types of technology:

- TV
- cameras
- microphones

But then as technology moves, we've seen the Internet with all kinds of things that it can be used for really, really good things. And it could also be used for really, really evil things, which is already happening with AI.

Isaiah 44:9: "Those who make a graven image... [that's what these things are; let's make no mistake about it] *...are all of them vanity; and the things in which they delight shall not help...*"

Because our deepest problems, our true problems, and every person that has ever delved into AI and understands the risks and challenges will honestly—honest with themselves—admit that the biggest challenge of AI is **ethics!** They will admit that that's the biggest challenge, because those are the problems of humanity: ***being able to discern from good and evil/right and wrong! Only God provides what is truly right and wrong!***

"...and they *are* their own witnesses. They do not see nor know, that they may be ashamed. ***Who has formed a god, or melted a graven image that is profitable for anything?***" (vs 9-10).

And that is the same question that we can ask ourselves today! Who has formed a molten image? A humanoid? A robot? A device? Even programming that is deep, deep thinking? Supposedly, a mind of its own, which is nothing more than replicating the minds of humans. Millions

and millions of human beings accumulated on the web or on the cloud.

That's what it is! But it is profitable for anything? It is not profitable for anything long-lasting. It may bring benefits in the short term, **just like sin that brings benefits**. Apparent benefits or pleasure in the short term. **But in the end it destroys, and it kills!**

Verse 11: "Behold, all his companions shall be ashamed; and the craftsmen, they *are* of men. Let them all come together, let them stand up, they shall dread; they shall be ashamed together. The black smith fashions an axe. He works in the coals, and forms it with hammers, and works it with the strength of his arms. Then, he is hungry, and his strength fails; he drinks no water, and is weak" (vs 11-12).

This is what happens, he's explaining what is really happening. We can have all this technology. We can have all these things. But at the end of the day, we're human and we depend on everything:

- the air
- the water
- the food

That only God can do. There's some people working in labs 'playing God' trying to make synthetic food, cloning meat and these kind of experiments. But in the end it will not profit for anything, because only God can create the nutrients in the way that He designed it. It's good for nothing!

Verse 13—*He makes another comparison*: "The carpenter fashions wood and stretches a line; he marks it out with a pencil; he shapes it with carving tools, and he marks it out with the compass, and makes it after the figure of a man, according to the beauty of a man, to sit *in the house*."

Today we can say the same things. It might not be a compass, it might not be of wood. It might be of titanium with silicone with some boards and chips. It could be connected to the web. It could be all of these things, but it's the same thing.

Verse 15: "Then it shall be for a man to burn; for he will take some of it and warm himself... [talking about the wood] ...Yea, he kindles *it* and bakes bread; yea, he makes a god and worships *it*; he makes it a graven image and falls down to *worship* it."

That's what we have now; that's what we have. We are going after our own inventions.

Verse 16: "He burns part of it in the fire; with part of it he eats flesh; he roasts a roast and is satisfied; yea, he warms *himself*, and says, 'Aha, I am warm, I have seen the fire.'"

- only God can create that
- only God can create those things

Verse 17: "And *with* the rest of it he makes into a god, his graven image; he falls down to it and worships, and prays to it, and says, 'Deliver me!...'"

That's what the scientists are really thinking; that those machines are going to deliver them.

- from having to work
- from having to think
- from having to figure things out

But the most complex problems of human being are not going to be solved by a robot, because they do not have the ability to think like a human being **and the ability to connect with God! That is what they don't have! They will never have that!**

God wants us to connect with Him and not with a machine. Like many people are doing

- for companionship
- for relationships
- for advice

But it's exactly like it says here:

"... 'Deliver me! For you *are* my god!' They know not nor understand; for He has shut their eyes so that they cannot see; *and* their hearts so that they cannot understand. And none thinks within his heart, nor *is there* knowledge nor understanding to say, 'I have burned part of it in the fire; yea, also I have baked bread upon the coals of it; I have roasted flesh and eaten; and shall I make the rest of it an abomination? Shall I fall down to the stock of a tree?' He feeds on ashes; a deceived heart has turned him aside, so that he cannot deliver his soul. Neither does he say, '*Is this* not a falsehood in my right hand?'" (vs 17-20).

This is what God is telling us here. Make no mistake it may not be a carved image just to put in a corner. It might be a carved image so that it would do something; so that he would look like a human

- so that he could gestate a human
- so he can teach you something
- so he can clean your house
- so he can do certain things

But in the end it has no power to do anything of relevance. Anything of value. These images and these gods **are an abomination to God!**

Verse 21: "Remember these, O Jacob and Israel; for you *are* My servant; I have formed you... [God formed us in HIS image] ...you *are* My servant; O Israel, you shall not be forgotten by Me."

The question is.

- Are we going to forget God as a society?
- Are we going to turn to our own devices?
- Do we believe that utopia?
- Do we believe all of these benefits?
- Do we believe that's what's going to save us?
- Do we believe that it's going to solve the biggest problems of humanity?

Just as many benefits has brought so much trouble and sorrow. We have to be aware that when we are doing these things in **our** image that we're developing these devices in **our** image, *that they can, and in the future, will be used against us, as well!*

We're going to continue next time talking about this topic, because there are many other Scriptures. that can. That relate to this topic of **in our image** and robotics, what is coming and we're going to talk about prophecy, as well.

We're going to continue to talk about our potential and what God really wants **instead of what society is doing with this technology**. Looking to themselves, to 'play God' and *to have these molten images and things in our image!*

Scriptural References:

- 1) Genesis 1:26
- 2) Exodus 20:2-6
- 3) Deuteronomy 4:12-20
- 4) Deuteronomy 16:22
- 5) Deuteronomy 27:14-15
- 6) Isaiah 44:9-21

Scripture referenced, not quoted: Psalm 82

EE:bo/po
Transcribed: 12/24/25

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