



FUEL: Genesis 1:26-2:3



What is the difference between a human being and a brick?

What is the difference between a human being and an orang-utan?

Genesis 1 teaches us about God, mankind and God's purposes for mankind. In Genesis 1:1-25 we are told that God is the one and only God and all the other gods that people worship are things created by Him. We are shown how God is a careful creator who forms and fills this world in a particular order and with a particular purpose in mind. In Genesis 1:26-2:3 we are taught about mankind and its God-given purpose.

READ GENESIS 1:26-2:3

GETTING THE FACTS

Compare the creation of humans on day six with the creation of everything else. **How is the creation of humans different?** (compare Genesis 1:26-29 with Genesis 1:3-25)

How are human beings similar to land animals? (verses 29-31 see also Genesis 2:7 and 2:19)

Glean all the information verses 26-29 gives us about humans?

What do you think that this teaches us about humans?

In verses 26-27 we are told that men and women are made in the 'image of God', that they are like God in some way. Being made in the 'image of God' means that humans have been...

1. Created to reflect God (v26, 28)

In what ways are we like God? _____

In what ways are we different to God? _____

2. Created to represent God (v26, 28)

We represent God by ruling His World on His behalf.

How are humans to rule the earth? (see Psalm 8) _____

3. Created to relate to God (v26-28)

God has created humans to relate to God. **Prove this statement using verses 26-28:**

What did God do on the 7th day (2:1-3)? What do you think that meant for the people He created?

In Genesis 2 we see mankind fulfilling its role as those created in the image of God. However by the end of Genesis 3, sin has entered the world and since then the 'image of God' in mankind has been distorted, and mankind now longer could enjoy God's rest. That was until Jesus Christ came into the world and demonstrated how God designed us to be. **How is He the true image of God?**

Colossians 1:15; Hebrews 1:3: _____

Matthew 17:27; 26:74-75; 21:1-2: _____

Matthew 11:27: _____

Mark 2:28; Matthew 11:28-29: _____

Mankind still has the image of God (cf. Genesis 9:6; James 3:9). **What promises do we find in the following verses about what happens to the 'image of God' in Christians, those who are in Christ?**

Colossians 3:9-10: _____

Philippians 3:20-21: _____

GETTING PERSONAL

What does this passage teach us about how we are to treat the environment? What does that practically mean for us?

What does this passage teach us about how we are to view other people?
