

1001 The original will of God - the first one of trilogy (Verses refer to those in King James Version - KJV)

Let us take a look at part of the original will of God. In Genesis 1, it already indicates that God is the Holy Trinity. Although the Bible consistently says so in both New and Old Testaments and we believe that because of faith, it is still a mystery.

If we examine Genesis 1, we can see that the original will of God is to have all living things "after their kind" and that Covid-19 is awful since it can propagate from bats to humans which is apparently not "after their kind".

In Genesis 1:26, it is clear that man is made in God's image and likeness [1]. First, please notice "image" and "likeness" are two different words. From Philippians 2:5-7, we can see that Jesus was made in the likeness of men [2]. We also see that anyone who has seen Jesus has seen the Father [3]. And we need to be conformed to the image of Jesus as Romans 8:29 says, "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."

The original will of God is to want Adam to trust and obey, and his original duty is to dress the garden of Eden and to keep it [4]. He has only one command to obey, which is not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Unfortunately, he chose not to obey and ate its fruit. But in Genesis 5:3, it says "And Adam lived a hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth." Is God lying? No, definitely not. In 1 Thessalonians 5:23, it says clearly that man definitely consists of three parts - spirit, soul, and body [5]. Thus, it is the spirit that died immediately and the other two have survived longer.

Here, we want to emphasize that one has to look at the whole Bible when quoting. With the limited examples I have encountered, I cannot claim that I know that the whole Bible is absolutely consistent. But with what I have encountered so far, it is always consistent. Please also notice that Seth has the likeness and the image of Adam after he was contaminated by sin. So do Adam's offspring, including us.

Before sin came, Adam could communicate with God in spirit and know what to do. The spirit then passed the knowledge to soul, and body listens the command of the soul to perform whatever tasks asked. If Adam followed his command and made a right choice, he would have lived forever [6].

After the sin entered the world, the spirit died. The soul is still in the image of God but was contaminated by sin. The body paid the price, and died eventually [7]. At that time, they were also driven out of the garden of Eden [8]. Nevertheless, in Genesis 3:21, it says "Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them." Thus, animals died because of them. The concept of the substitution of salvation even exists at that time. It is really consistent with what in Isaiah 55:8-9 says, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are

higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Some related verses

- [1] Genesis 1:26, "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."
- [2] Philippians 2:5-7, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men."
- [3] John 14:9, "Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? "
- [4] Genesis 2:15-17, "And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."
- [5] 1 Thessalonians 5:23, "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."
- [6] Genesis 3:22, "And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever."
- [7] Genesis 3:19, "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."
- [8] Genesis 3:24, "So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life."