

The Face of God

“Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation.” Colossians 1:15

Ever wonder what God looks like? According to the Bible, He is a spiritual being, invisible to our human eyes. Although we can't actually see Him, we can catch a glimpse of His attributes through the things He has made. We learn about His majesty and power by observing nature (see Romans 1:20), but this only provides us with a partial view of what God is like.

We learn about His character by observing His Son, Jesus, who became one of us. Jesus is the most perfect representation of what God is like, but He is not the only representation.

We are all children of God, made from God's spiritual DNA. We are representations of God in the same way that children are physical representations of their parents. Sometimes they closely resemble their parents, sometimes not, but in every case, they are made of the same “flesh and blood.” As parents, we love our children as ourselves, mainly because they are actually extensions of ourselves.

In the same way that we share the physical DNA of our parents, we share God's spiritual DNA. God has given each of us a portion of His Spirit. More accurately, each of us actually is a portion of God's spirit. So, when you look into your face in the mirror, you are looking at a representation of God, a very imperfect representation, but the actual face of God, nonetheless. When you look into the faces of people you know, you are viewing the faces of God, and extensions of your own consciousness, as well, because all of us are related to one another.

When God speaks directly to us through His Holy Spirit, we cannot detect this with our physical senses, at least not while we abide in the earthly plane of existence. The only way God communicates with us directly, in ways we can see, hear, and feel, is through our brothers and sisters. God reaches out to you through them, and He reaches out to them through you. When you do something nice to one of God's precious children, you are also doing something nice to God. When you harm those children, you are also harming God, and by extension, yourself.

Jesus made it very clear, in Matthew 25, that whatever we do for even the least of His brothers and sisters, we are actually doing for Him. When we harm them, we are harming Him. When we help those in need, we are helping Him. Could it be that Jesus was speaking literally, and not figuratively, in this Bible passage? Everything you do to others comes right back to you, sooner or later. This Law of Reciprocity is inviolate. Inevitably, what you sow you reap.

Currently, we are very imperfect representations of God. However, it is the ultimate destiny of each of us to be completely and perfectly conformed to the image of Christ (see Romans 8:29). One day we will become exactly like Him. For most of us, that will not happen any day soon, but by the end of the ages, it will become a reality for all of us. It is up to you how long that will take and how many ups and downs you will be experiencing along that journey. One thing is certain. All of us are on that road. Our salvation in Christ is not an instantaneous event. Instead it is an ages-long journey. All of us are in the process of being “saved.” According to 1 Timothy 4:10, God *“is the Savior of all mankind.”*

Remember this. When you look into the mirror, or into the faces of the people in your life, you are at the same time looking into the face of God.

“May the Lord make His face shine on you, and be gracious to you; may the Lord lift up His countenance on you, and give you peace.” Numbers 6:25-26