

A person stands on the peak of a dark, silhouetted mountain. The sky above is a deep blue and black, filled with stars and the faint, glowing band of the Milky Way galaxy. The title 'The FIRST Family' is written in white across the center of the image. 'The' and 'Family' are in a cursive script, while 'FIRST' is in a tall, thin, sans-serif font.

The FIRST Family

Class 2 – The First Man

The Garden as a template for God's home

Garden of Eden	Tabernacle	First Temple	Christ	Future Temple
<i>Eastward</i> in Eden (2:8)	Exo. 27:9-15 (faced <i>East</i>)	Eze. 8:16	Mat. 2:1, 2, 9	Eze. 40:6
<i>Entrance</i> on East (3:24)	Num. 2:1-3	Eze. 8:16	Rev. 16:12; Eze. 43:2, 4	Eze. 44:1; 46:1
God <i>among</i> them (3:8)	Exo. 25:8, 29:44-46, etc.	1 Kin. 6:13	Isa. 7:14	Rev. 21:3
<i>Dress</i> and <i>keep</i> it (Gen. 2:15). Priestly language.	Num. 3:7-8; 8:25-26; etc. <i>"do and keep"</i>	1 Chr. 23:32	Psa. 110:4	Eze. 44:14
God <i>walking</i> among (3:8)	Lev. 26:3, 11-12 (God's presence <i>walking</i> ...)	Zech. 3:7	John 20:26	Rev. 3:4
<i>Cherubim</i> (3:24)	Exo. 25:18-22	1 Kin. 6:23	4 faces	Eze. 10, 41
Cherubim <i>placed</i> (3:24)	Exo. 25:9 (root of <i>"Tabernacle"</i>)	1 Kin. 6:13 <i>"dwell"</i>	John 1:14 <i>"dwelt"</i>	Eze. 43:7, 9 <i>"dwell"</i>
A place of <i>rest</i> (2:15)	Num. 10:36	1 Chr. 23:25; 2 Chr. 6:41	Isa. 11:10; Matt. 11:28	Heb. 4:9

The Garden – principles of God's home

1. There was a continual, abundant supply of **water** 2:6, 10
2. It was a place to find **rest** 2:15 (*'put' = rest*)
3. It was a place where **work** was expected 2:15
4. God desired **fruitfulness** within it 2:9, 16, 3:2
5. From there **life spread** to the world 2:10-14
6. There were **designated roles** assigned & expected 2:15, 19
7. **God dwelled within it** because His principles were kept 3:8
8. **Sin was not allowed in**, and removed when needed 3:24

cp. manna
Exo. 16:13-15

Eden lost and restored

Genesis 1-4

Heavens and earth created

Man made in God's image

First Sanctuary with men

Dominion over creation

On a mountain

Life-giving river

Tree of life (access barred)

First marriage

Eve the Bride

Trees yielding fruit

Freely eat

Serpent deceives

Death begins

Mark on Cain's forehead

Driven from God's presence ("face")

Revelation 19-22

New heaven and new earth (21:1)

Man *perfected* in God's image (19:8)

Tabernacle of God with men (21:3)

Inherit *all things* (21:7)

On a **great and high** mountain (21:10)

A pure, *eternal*-life-giving river (22:1-2)

Right to the tree of life (22:2, 14)

Marriage of the **Lamb** (19:9)

The ecclesia the Bride (21:2)

Trees yielding fruit *every month* (22:2)

Freely **drink** (21:6, 22:17)

Serpent **destroyed** (20:10)

No more death (21:4)

No mark in the forehead (20:4) / God's **name** written in the forehead (22:4)

They shall **see** His face (22:4)

For the LORD shall comfort Zion: he will comfort all her waste places; and **he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the LORD**; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody.

Isaiah 51:3



And God said... Gen. 1

v3 – let there be light

v6 – let there be a firmament

v9 – let the waters be gathered...let the dry land appear

v11 – let the earth bring forth grass...

v14 – let there be lights in the firmament...

v20 – let the waters bring forth...the moving creature

v24 – let the earth bring forth the living creature...

v26 – **let us make**

**God participates more intimately in creating man
than in any other creative act.**

Who is the “us” of Gen. 1:26?

→ Heb. ‘elohim’

“And God said, Let us make man...”

Job 38:4, 7

→ The angels were there, involved in creation.

Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare,
if thou hast understanding...when the morning stars sang together,
and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

God Himself is speaking to His angels.

He is talking to His family!

In our image, after our likenes

“OUR image...OUR likeness...” – whose?

Man was made in the image and likeness of God and the angels.

Image = physical appearance

Likeness = thought/moral capacity



Gen. 5:1, 3

This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, **in the likeness of God made he him;**

And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son **in his own likeness, after his image;** and called his name Seth:

Adam's growing family was carrying on the expansion of God's family.

Our physical features are like God's

- eyes (*Deut. 11:12*)
 - *apple* of his eye (*Deut. 32:10*)
- face, hand and back parts (*Exo. 33:22-23*)
 - *palms* of his hands (*Isa. 49:16*)
- *right* hand, arms (*Psa. 98:1*)
- feet (*Psa. 99:5*)
- ears (*Num. 14:28*)
- mouth (*Num. 12:8*)
 - spoke “mouth to mouth” with Moses
- heart (*Gen. 6:6*)
- bosom (*Isa. 40:11*)
- nose that can smell (*Isa. 65:5*)
- nostrils (*2 Sam. 22:16*)

John 4:24 – *God is Spirit...*

Luke 24:39 – *a spirit hath not
flesh and bones...*

God is not limited to our form

Image and likeness in the NT

Col. 3:10 – put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge **after the image of him that created him.**

“...put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.” **Eph. 4:24**

Rom. 12:2 – be ye transformed by **the renewing of your mind...**

Rom. 8:29 – For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be **conformed to the image of his Son,**

Col. 1:15 [Christ] is the **image** of the invisible God.

Jam. 3:9-10 – [with our tongue] bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are **made after the similitude (likeness) of God.** My brethren, these things ought not so to be.

Mark 12:16-17 – And they brought it. And he saith unto them, **Whose is this image and superscription?** And they said unto him, Caesar's.

And Jesus answering said unto them, Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's. And they marvelled at him.

Everything else! **1 Chr. 29:14** “all things come of thee..”

Mankind

uniquely resembles God in form

uniquely possesses the capacity to reflect His character

God's purpose for man

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.

God's very first words to Adam.

28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

What is man, that you are mindful of him? or the son of man, that you visit him? You made him a little lower than the angels; you crowned him with glory and honour, and did set him over the works of your hands: You have put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. **But now we do not yet see all things put under him.** Heb. 2:6-8

Yahweh Elohim



Gen. 12 (Abram) – Come out from your family...and I will build my family through you.

Christ and the Saints



Then shall Yahweh go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. **Zech. 14:8**

Genesis – all about ~~creation~~ FAMILY

- 2:4 – the generations of heaven and earth
- 5:1 – the generations of Adam
- 6:9 – the generations of Noah
- 10:1 – the generations of the sons of Noah
- 10:32 – the families of the sons of Noah after their generations
- 11:10 – the generations of Shem
- 11:27 – the generations of Terah
- 25:12-13 – the generations of Ishmael
- 25:19 – the generations of Isaac
- 36:1, 9 – the generations of Esau
- 37:2 – the generations of Jacob

Spotlight on today's issues:



States that God started the evolutionary process, and used evolution to “create” everything.

Theistic Evolution

“to suggest that in the first instance wives were obtained from another race, altogether outside Adam and his descendants, is to seek to account for the posterity of Cain and Seth on principles that take the bottom out of the whole record...” *The First Man, Christadelphian 1888, p619*

Gen. 1:26 is about a relationship that God wants to have with man.
If theistic evolution is true, that closeness is destroyed.



Take Away Points

Being made in God's image is not just a privilege – it's a calling.

God develops His people *inside* His family.

