

THE GOSPEL OF  
**LUKE**  
DISCOVERING JESUS  
THE MAN WHO IS GOD

## Imago Dei

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### Luke 20:19-26

<sup>19</sup> The teachers of the law and the chief priests looked for a way to arrest him immediately, because they knew he had spoken this parable against them. But they were afraid of the people.

<sup>20</sup> Keeping a close watch on him, they sent spies, who pretended to be sincere. They hoped to catch Jesus in something he said, so that they might hand him over to the power and authority of the governor. <sup>21</sup> So the spies questioned him: "Teacher, we know that you speak and teach what is right, and that you do not show partiality but teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. <sup>22</sup> Is it right for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" <sup>23</sup> He saw through their duplicity and said to them, <sup>24</sup> "Show me a denarius. Whose image and inscription are on it?" "Caesar's," they replied. <sup>25</sup> He said to them, "Then give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's."

<sup>26</sup> They were unable to trap him in what he had said there in public. And astonished by his answer, they became silent.

Two thought provoking phrases that Jesus uses in this account:

- 1) *Whose image and inscription are on it?* That leads me to ask myself, "whose image and inscription is on me?"
- 2) *Give back... to God what is God's.* That leads me to ask, "Am I giving back to God what is His?"

### Genesis 1:26-28

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

<sup>27</sup> So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.  
Colossians 1:15

<sup>3</sup> And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup> The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see **the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.** <sup>5</sup> For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup> For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.  
2 Corinthians 4:3-6

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, **are being transformed into the same image** from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.  
2 Corinthians 3:18

Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge **after the image of its creator.**

Colossians 3:9-10

**"Am I giving back to God what is His?"** How do I do that?

**First**, make the determinate choice to receive His gift of salvation by faith and experience His great grace. You need to **DECIDE**.

**Then**, purpose to follow Him in your daily pursuit of Him as you grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus through His Word and the working of His Holy Spirit in you. You need to **PURSUE**.