



Ep. 1 | Jeff Norris | Bob Cargo | Caleb Click

In this episode of the *Digging Deeper* podcast, Jeff sits down with other members of our teaching team, Bob Cargo and Caleb Click and give a preview for our upcoming series, *Imago Dei, Images of God*, beginning on July 12. The guys discuss how biblical doctrine of us, as humans, shows we are all image-bearers of God in a world God created, and God calls His church to be His redemptive workers, to seek the flourishing of all His image-bearers and creation.

NOTEWORTHY QUOTES

One of the reasons this series is so important is that in a sense, we don't understand the whole Bible and we don't understand the story of Christianity and the story of Christ until we understand the concept of the image of God. -Bob Cargo

Maybe it would even be good to read, Genesis chapter one. This is where really where the series is based out of here in Genesis chapter one 26 and 27. 'Then 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 birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God, he created him, male and female. He created them.'

-Jeff Norris

If you don't understand this concept that you, as a human being were made in the image of God, you're not actually going to ever understand what the gospel is about.
-Caleb Click

If you don't know what you're being redeemed and restored into, you're not going to understand the purpose for which Christ saved you. This a foundation level, a doctrine that not only explains to us the overarching narrative, the biblical story, what we lost in the fall, but also what we continue to have and that dignity that remains with human beings, but also that we're being restored back into other work of Jesus Christ.
-Caleb Click

What we're going to explore in this series more and more, is the image of God is something that has been marred and corrupted by the fall, but it hasn't been lost.
-Caleb Click

There's a reason in Proverbs 17:5, it says the one who mocks the poor mocks, their creator. Uh it's because they bear the image of God. These are enormously significant things, both for understanding of the gospel, but also for its horizontal implications.
-Caleb Click

He {Christ} dies not only on a judicial level to wipe away my sins, but he also dies that I would be made new and be restored once again, into that image and that the spirit that Adam lost would be restored in us. -Caleb Click

Male and female, we were, we were good and who we were before sin marred us and took away our holiness and our righteousness and our goodness. Um, but we still bear the image even as fallen beings. And that's something that we'll talk about in the series.
-Jeff Norris

One question we'll address is, who am I as a human? Well, the answer to that question first and foremost comes from Genesis one, not from Genesis three. One tells us who we are as image bearers of Christ. Genesis three tells us what happened to us as image bearers of Christ, which is the fall, which is sin. -Jeff Norris

We often think that the good news only begins in the New Testament, with the good news of Jesus. Well, the good news happens in Genesis 3:15, where sin has occurred, and Jesus and God immediately gave a hint. -Jeff Norris

The first pillar is creation. Second pillar is the fall and sin coming into the world. The third pillar is that of redemption and the work of Christ to redeem us from what sin has done to us. The fourth pillar, you could even say, biblically is the pillar of restoration. And that's what we're in right now. That God is in this process of restoring through his image bearers who have been remade into the image of Christ, who are being made remade into the image of Christ. Then the fifth pillar would be consummation when he comes again, and all things are made new fully and completely. -Jeff Norris

This series, I think, is going to be so important, not only for us to understand the gospel more deeply, but to understand how to share the gospel with other people. -Bob Cargo

We have a story of what it means to be human. And we have a story of what it means to be restored in those places that we know are broken. We feel it, we experience it, that there is brokenness and we yearn for that brokenness to go away. Well, that's the story of the gospel. -Bob Cargo

I think this idea that the story of the gospel shows us how to be fully restored image bearers is powerful, it's attractive. -Bob Cargo

This understanding of the image of God and who we are as image bearers, and as those who know Jesus and are being remade into his image. The significance of that, then propels us in a way that is right and good and glorifying to God into those endeavors that are good. -Jeff Norris

If you understand this doctrine and as it was, we were created to be, but what we still have as, as fallen human beings and then as redeemed ones, I think it gives us a sense of the incredible value, dignity and worth of every single human life. -Jeff Norris

If we are being brought into Christ, if we were created to image God, which means that our thoughts were after his thoughts, our wills reunited with His will, our actions were expressions of his heart, so that we were literally bringing His rule to bear in the earth, which brought blessing. That was the plan. Then in redemption, what needs to be happening is more and more we're repenting of the old way. -Jeff Norris

Scripture References:

[Genesis 1-3](#)

[Proverbs 17:5](#)

Additional Resources:

[Rejoicing in Christ](#) by Michael Reeves

[Being Human: The Nature of Spiritual Experience](#) by Rana M. Macaulay and Jerram Barrs

[God's Story](#) by Scottie Smith



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