



Genesis 1:26-28 NASB

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." (27) God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. (28) God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

**God had a dream & longed to be a Father. We know because He made US!
He could have made us in the image of anything!**

1 John 3:1-2 NASB

See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and *such* we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. (2) Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.

Daniel 11:32 KJV ...but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do *exploits*.

1. The Father did NOT want control; He wanted _____ & _____.

John 15:16 NASB "You did not choose Me **but I chose you**, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.

1 Peter 2:9-10 NASB

But you are **A CHOSEN RACE**, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR *God's* OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; (10) for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.

He chose us as children so that we could choose Him!

- He didn't *just* choose us in creation.
- He chose us *even in* our rebellion! He chose you! (Romans 5)

He has already chosen you. Let's give him the best gift in return by choosing Him!

Matthew 3:16-17 NASB

After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove *and* lighting on Him, (17) and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."

Just like us, we like to see our good traits in our children.

But Jesus, hadn't done anything yet! ... or had He? Prior to His baptism he had:

- ✓ CHOSEN obedience.
- ✓ CHOSEN to be like His Father.
- ✓ CHOSEN to be like His image.

Because of those choices, now He could BE those choices for each of us.

Let's give our Father a gift He TRULY desires:

Let's CHOOSE Him

Let's CHOOSE to be like Him!

Let's complete His dream of US being made in His image!

God gave **US** a choice – **When we choose to** reverence Him & His passion for souls, His fire starts to burn in US! **When we choose to** humble ourselves to whatever He desires, we place ourselves in the very FIRE of God, READY to be lit by His Holy FIRE, BURNING by the FUEL of His Love, the fresh oil of the Holy Spirit!

...and we will **NOT** be lukewarm.

Answers:

1. He wanted Love & choice.