

Image & Likeness: Old Covenant Exegesis

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Image & Likeness: Old Covenant Exegesis

Introduction

This study is an Appendix for the study, *Image and Likeness of God in Man: Does God Have Form and Shape?* http://www.thelordschildren.org/bible_study/pdfs/imagegod.pdf

This is Appendix B: Old Covenant Exegesis – Image and Likeness

There are two words God used in Creating man as recorded in the Book of Genesis chapter one, verse 26 that forms the basis for comparing the creation of man with God; צֶלֶם tselem (tseh'-lem) and דְמוּת demuth (dem-ooth').

Genesis 1:26

¶ Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our **image** <צֶלֶם tselem>, according to Our **likeness** <דְמוּת demuth>; 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."

What does image - צֶלֶם tselem (tseh'-lem) and likeness - דְמוּת demuth (dem-ooth') mean? This Appendix is an exegesis of these two words and all their occurrences in Scripture so we can discern by definition, usage and context from the original Hebrew language just what is meant by image and likeness of God in man. Biblical translations use the English words image and likeness interchangeably when translating the Hebrew terms, but are they proper and accurate in doing so? You can decide for yourself when applying the definition to the context.

My primary motivation for the main study is to dispel the myths and heresies created through the twisting and distortion of the text by fringe groups attempting to falsely teach that man is a god, but a *lesser* god than God is God; man is god and may become *equal* or *greater* to God as God is God; man will *become* god as God is God after his resurrection; Triune God is in essence physical, God has a physical body; God is not Triune in nature; God is like man. All such heresies are dispelled in the primary study and also evidenced in this short Appendix study.

Related Studies

There are other studies related to this topic you may find at The Lord's Children website

Online Bible Study http://thelordschildren.org/bible_study/biblestudy.htm

Topical Studies http://www.thelordschildren.org/bible_study/topical.htm

Expository Studies http://www.thelordschildren.org/bible_study/exposit.htm

Image:Form/Shape http://www.thelordschildren.org/bible_study/pdfs/imagegod.htm

God Is... Man is... http://www.thelordschildren.org/bible_study/pdfs/imagegod-a.pdf

Exeg:Image/LikeNT http://www.thelordschildren.org/bible_study/pdfs/imagegod-c.pdf

06754 צֶלֶם tselem (tseh'-lem)

from an unused root meaning to shade; TWOT-1923a; n m ; *an image*:—

NAS-form (1), image (5), images (6), likenesses (3), phantom (1).

AV-image 16, vain shew 1; 17

1) image

1a) images (of tumours, mice, heathen gods)

1b) image, likeness (of resemblance)

1c) mere, empty, image, semblance (fig.)

Scriptures

Genesis 1:26

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our **image <06754 tselem>**, according to Our **likeness <01823 demuth>**; 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."

Genesis 1:27

God created man in His own **image <06754 tselem>**, in the **image <06754 tselem>** of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Genesis 5:3

When Adam had lived one hundred and thirty years, he became the father of *a son* in his own **likeness <01823 demuth>**, according to his **image <06754 tselem>**, and named him Seth.

Genesis 9:6

"Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed, For in the **image <06754 tselem>** of God He made man.

1 Samuel 6:5

"So you shall make **likenesses <06754 tselem>** of your tumors and **likenesses <06754 tselem>** of your mice that ravage the land, and you shall give glory to the God of Israel; perhaps He will ease His hand from you, your gods, and your land.

1 Samuel 6:11

They put the ark of the LORD on the cart, and the box with the golden mice and the **likenesses <06754 tselem>** of their tumors.

2 Kings 11:18

All the people of the land went to the house of Baal, and tore it down; his altars and his **images <06754 tselem>** they broke in pieces thoroughly, and killed Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars. And the priest appointed officers over the house of the LORD.

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2 Chronicles 23:17

And all the people went to the house of Baal and tore it down, and they broke in pieces his altars and his **images <06754 tselem>**, and killed Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars.

Psalms 39:6

"Surely every man walks about as a **phantom <06754 tselem>**; Surely they make an uproar for nothing; He amasses *riches* and does not know who will gather them.

Psalms 73:20

Like a dream when one awakes, O Lord, when aroused, You will despise their **form <06754 tselem>**.

Ezekiel 7:20

'They transformed the beauty of His ornaments into pride, and they made the **images <06754 tselem>** of their abominations *and* their detestable things with it; therefore I will make it an abhorrent thing to them.

Ezekiel 16:17

"You also took your beautiful jewels *made* of My gold and of My silver, which I had given you, and made for yourself male **images <06754 tselem>** that you might play the harlot with them.

Ezekiel 23:14

"So she increased her harlotries. And she saw men portrayed on the wall, **images <06754 tselem>** of the Chaldeans portrayed with vermilion,

Amos 5:26

"You also carried along Sikkuth your king and Kiyun, your **images <06754 tselem>**, the star of your gods which you made for yourselves.

01823 דמות demuth (dem-ooth')

from [01819](#); TWOT-437a ; *likeness, similitude*:—

NAS-figure (1), figures like (1), figures resembling (1), form (4), like (4), likeness (8), pattern (1), resembling (1), something resembling (1), which resembled (1), who resembled (1).

AV-likeness 19, similitude 2, like 2, manner 1, fashion 1; 25

n f

1) likeness, similitude

adv

2) in the likeness of, like as

Scriptures

Genesis 1:26

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our **image <06754 tselem>**, according to Our **likeness <01823 demuth>**; 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."

Genesis 5:1

This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day when God created man, He made him in the **likeness <01823 demuth>** of God.

Genesis 5:3

When Adam had lived one hundred and thirty years, he became the father of a *son* in his own **likeness <01823 demuth>**, according to his image, and named him Seth.

2 Kings 16:10

Now King Ahaz went to Damascus to meet Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria, and saw the altar which was at Damascus; and King Ahaz sent to Urijah the priest the **pattern <01823 demuth>** of the altar and its model, according to all its workmanship.

2 Chronicles 4:3

Now **figures like <01823 demuth>** oxen were under it and all around it, ten cubits, entirely encircling the sea. The oxen were in two rows, cast in one piece.

Psalms 58:4

They have venom like **<01823 demuth>** the venom of a serpent; Like a deaf cobra that stops up its ear,

Isaiah 13:4

A sound of tumult on the mountains, **Like <01823 demuth>** that of many people! A sound of the uproar of kingdoms, Of nations gathered together! The LORD of hosts is mustering the army for battle.

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Isaiah 40:18

To whom then will you liken God? Or what **likeness <01823 demuth>** will you compare with Him?

Ezekiel 1:5

Within it there were **figures resembling <01823 demuth>** four living beings. And this was their appearance: they had human form **<01823 demuth>**.

Ezekiel 1:10

As for the **form <01823 demuth>** of their faces, *each* had the face of a man; all four had the face of a lion on the right and the face of a bull on the left, and all four had the face of an eagle.

Ezekiel 1:16

The appearance of the wheels and their workmanship *was* like sparkling beryl, and all four of them had the same **form <01823 demuth>**, their appearance and workmanship *being* as if one wheel were within another.

Ezekiel 1:22

Now over the heads of the living beings *there was* something **like <01823 demuth>** an expanse, like the awesome gleam of crystal, spread out over their heads.

Ezekiel 1:26

Now above the expanse that was over their heads there was **something resembling <01823 demuth>** a throne, like lapis lazuli in appearance; and on that **which resembled <01823 demuth>** a throne, high up, was a **figure <01823 demuth>** with the appearance of a man.

Ezekiel 1:28

As the appearance of the rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so *was* the appearance of the surrounding radiance. Such *was* the appearance of the **likeness <01823 demuth>** of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw *it*, I fell on my face and heard a voice speaking.

Ezekiel 8:2

Then I looked, and behold, a **likeness <01823 demuth>** as the appearance of a man; from His loins and downward *there was* the appearance of fire, and from His loins and upward the appearance of brightness, like the appearance of glowing metal.

Ezekiel 10:1

Then I looked, and behold, in the expanse that was over the heads of the cherubim something like a sapphire stone, in appearance **resembling <01823 demuth>** a throne, appeared above them.

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Ezekiel 10:10

As for their appearance, all four of them had the same **likeness <01823 demuth>**, as if one wheel were within another wheel.

Ezekiel 10:21

Each one had four faces and each one four wings, and beneath their wings was the **form <01823 demuth>** of human hands.

Ezekiel 10:22

As for the **likeness <01823 demuth>** of their faces, they were the same faces whose appearance I had seen by the river Chebar. Each one went straight ahead.

Ezekiel 23:15

girded with belts on their loins, with flowing turbans on their heads, all of them looking like officers, **like <01823 demuth>** the Babylonians *in* Chaldea, the land of their birth.

Daniel 10:16

And behold, one **who resembled <01823 demuth>** a human being was touching my lips; then I opened my mouth and spoke and said to him who was standing before me, "O my lord, as a result of the vision anguish has come upon me, and I have retained no strength.