

text **STUDY** *to*

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to join the ZOOM

The Genesis

Valuable, Vulnerable, Imperfect PT.2

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Genesis 1:26–27 | *In His Image*

[26] 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.”

[27] So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

Divine Counsel | *In Our Image*

God has taken his place in the **divine council**; in the midst of the **gods** he holds judgment: **Psalms 82:1**

[5] Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones! [6] For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD? Who **among the heavenly beings** is like the LORD, [7] a God greatly to be feared in the **council of the holy ones**, and awesome above all who are around him? **Psalms 89:5–7**

Divine Counsel | *sons of god*

[6] For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD? Who among the *heavenly beings* is like the LORD, **Psalm 89:6**

יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים , **beney elohim - sons of god**

appear in many other biblical texts - (**Gen 6:2,4; Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7; Deut 32:8–9, 43**)

Divine Counsel | *The Structure*

THREE TIERED DIVINE COUNSEL

1. **Yahweh** was the supreme authority over a divine bureaucracy
2. **Sons of god** - יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים, *beney elohim*
3. **Angels** - יְהוָה מַלְאָכָיו - *mal'akhim*

1 Kings 22:19–23 | *Council Operations*

[19] And Micaiah said, “Therefore hear the word of the LORD: I saw the **LORD sitting on his throne**, and **all the host of heaven** standing beside him on his right hand and on his left; [20] and the LORD said, ‘Who will entice Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?’ And one said one thing, and another said another. [21] Then **a spirit came forward** and stood before the LORD, saying, ‘I will entice him.’

1 Kings 22:19–23 | *Council Operations*

[22] And the LORD said to him, ‘By what means?’ And he said, ‘I will go out, and will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.’ And he said, ‘You are to entice him, and you shall succeed; go out and do so.’ [23] Now therefore behold, **the LORD** has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these your prophets; the LORD has declared disaster for you.”

Divine Counsel | *In Our Image*

In Eden, humanity was made to commune with and participate in the Divine Counsel. This access was lost in the rebellion. How is it redeemed?

Tabernacle | *Tent of Meeting*

1

Alter

Submission



2

Basin

Cleansing



3

Lampstand

Illumination



4

Shewbread

Sustaining



5

Incense

Worship/Prayer



6

Veil

Threshold / Heavens



7

Ark

Divine Presence

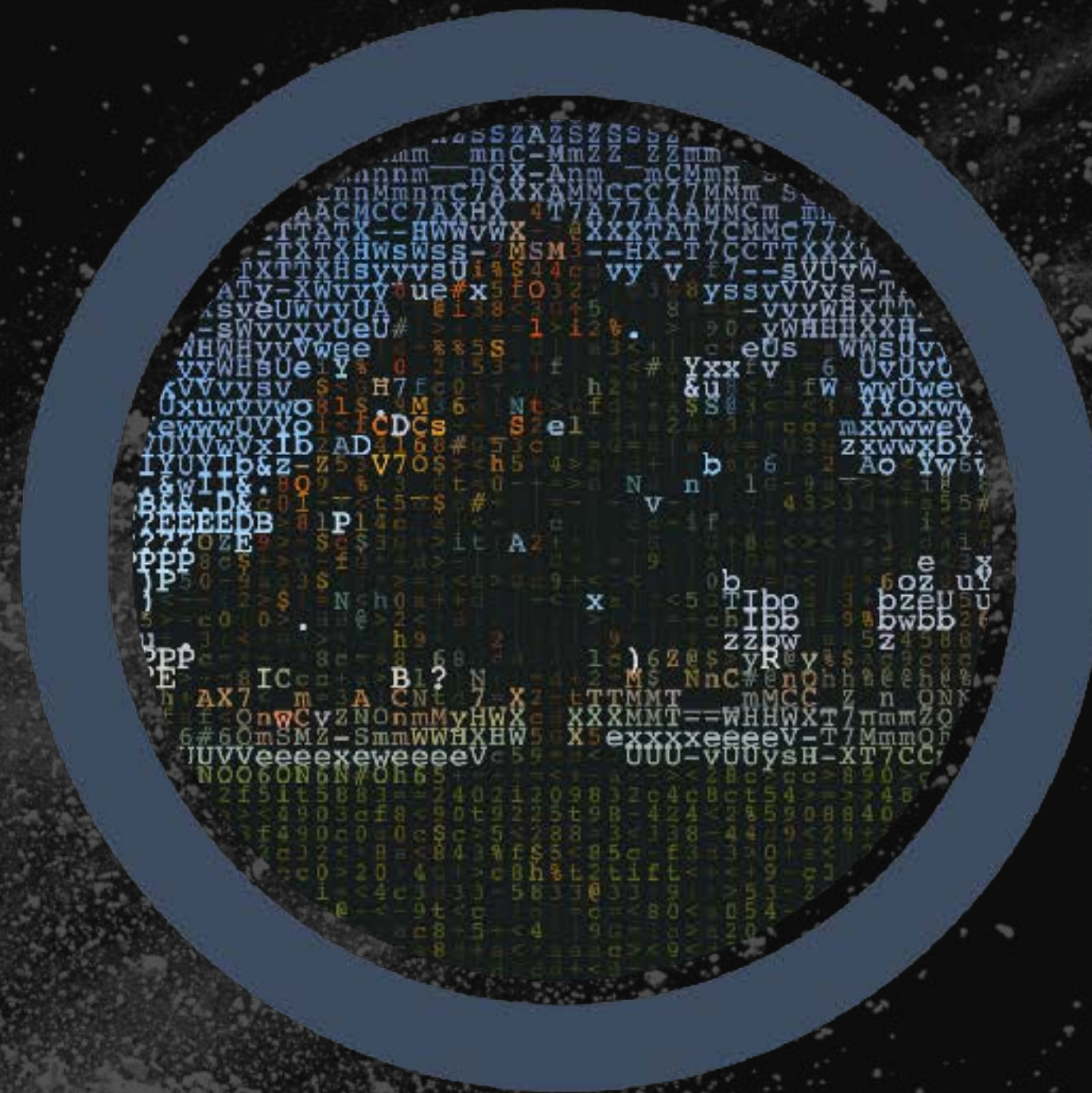


Divine Counsel | *In Our Image*

*In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe **filled the temple**... And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and **who will go for us?**” Then I said, “Here I am! Send me.”*

Isaiah 6:1,8

Mistake or Sin? | *Imperfect*



*God put a horrible choice in a
“perfect” place and called it good.*

Mistake or Sin? | *Imperfect*

PERFECTION

- Maturity vs. the capacity to make a mistake
- All sin is a mistake, but not all mistakes are sin
- Culture elevates the flawless human form & calls it perfect
- Moral Relativity denies there are such things as “mistakes”.
 - Subjectivism means that if I believe something is right, then I am right in doing it.
 - Mistakes demand an external standard that is ***not self***
- ***Tree of Life*** vs. ***Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil***

Freedom of Choice | *Imperfect*

FREEDOM

- There is no compulsion in love
- Freedom depends on a minimum of two viable options
- Choice allows for love
- Choice allows for destruction & separation
- Choice elevated to an “Elohim” becomes idolatry
- True freedom is radical dependance not independence

Conclusion | *Imperfect*

VALUABLE

- *The garden was “good” and humanity as “husbands” was **very** good*
- *Humanity was made in the image of God to radiate His Glory and participate in the divine counsel*

VULNERABLE

- *Humanity was made mortal with an eternal connection to Tree of Life*
- *Humanity is desperately dependance on intimate connection*
- *The tragedy of the rebellion was a “divorce” from this connection*

IMPERFECT

- *The capacity to make mistakes is part of God’s design*
- *Freedom requires submission to something greater*

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