

3. Do people have value?

We live in a society where everything has a price, but nothing has value. A young lady once asked, "What are we?" That question still rings in my ears. Do people have any intrinsic worth or value? Does anything really matter? If everything is all just a big cosmic chance, there is no answer to this most basic question. Without a firm understanding of the worth and value of people, life becomes worthless. This lie destroys. God gives value and intrinsic worth to all people when he made them in his image. "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them." (Genesis 1:27) All people have worth and dignity because they are made in the image of God. This worth is not based on what a person does, but who they are. Thus, it applies to all people in the world. God made you just how he wanted you. God did not make a mistake. After reflecting on this truth, the psalmist says, "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well." (Psalm 139:14) Does your soul know this very well? Are you critical of how God made you? Are you critical of others? We were created to enjoy God and love one another. The Scripture warns, "Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?" (James 4:11-12) All human life is special and worth protecting. This is why the sixth command prohibits murder (Exodus 20:13). God in his goodness has given humanity intrinsic worth and value by making man in his image.

Bible passage to read: Psalm 139

Questions to ponder:

1. Do you have worth and value?
2. What is the basis of your significance and worth?
3. How does being made in God's image give you significance and worth?
4. Why should all human life be valued and protected?
5. What is the world's basis of human significance worth?