

## Creation, Dominion, and the Image of God

### Rationale for Sermon Series

What does it mean for humanity to have been created in God's image and likeness? How are we to understand our stewardship of creation in light of God's gift of dominion over the world to humanity? Does the cosmology that we find articulated in the Bible make sense or have any meaning for us in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? The goal of this sermon series is to explore the Bible's teaching (particularly in Genesis 1 and Psalm 8) on God's creation of humanity in his image and the consequences this has for how we understand humanity's vocation to the created order as *God's* dominion. The series also explores the way in which the biblical authors reflect upon the world and articulate an ordered cosmology as a means of describing God's creation and Christ's rule over it as an ordered world. The sermon series then moves to focus upon how Christ, as *the* image of God, perfectly brings to fruition the purposes for God's creation *and* for humanity in his rule over the created order and his perfect embodiment of human existence as God's very image who enables his people to share in his peaceful and benevolent dominion over creation.

### Sermon Titles and Texts

Sermon 1: “ ‘You Made Him a Little Lower than the Angels’: Humanity, Dominion, and the Image of God”

Text: Genesis 1:26-31 and Psalm 8

Sermon 2: “All Things Created In, By, and Through Christ: Christ the Creator and Ruler of all Creation”

Text: Colossians 1:15-20

Sermon 3: “ ‘You have Subjected All Things under his Feet’: The Son Leads his Sons and Daughters to Glory and Honor”

Text: Hebrews 2:5-18

Sermon 4: “God, the Lamb, and his People will Reign Forever and Ever: Sharing in Christ's Dominion in the New Heaven and New Earth”

Text: Revelation 21:1 – 22:5

### Sample Bibliography

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