

EIKON AND HOMOIOMA

Are you wondering the meaning of these two words? Well, they are Greek words for image or likeness.

It is significant to note that the Bible speaks of two Adams; the first Adam and the last Adam (1 Corinthians 15:45). The first Adam was created but the last Adam was begotten. The first Adam was the first man; the last Adam is our Lord Jesus (1 Cor 15:47).

These two Greek words (Eikon and Homoioma) are translated as image in the Bible. One is used in connection with the first Adam and the other is used in connection with the last Adam. The one that is used in connection with the first Adam is the word Homoioma.

Homoioma means a resemblance or likeness that is not as a result of a shared life. For instance, you can see two people who look alike but they are not blood relations. Such was the relationship between the first Adam and God. Adam resembled God in similitude but he didn't have the very life of God yet. The life of God which is the eternal life (Zoe in the Greek) was represented by the Tree of Life in the midst of the garden of Eden. Adam had not partaken of it yet. So though he was created in the image of God, there was no shared life between them. It is just like a man and his picture or statue. There is resemblance, but there is no shared life.

In the bible, the first Adam is called the son of God.

Luke 3:38

...the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the SON of God. (NKJV)

The phrase 'son of God' means one who is of God by creation. He didn't have any earthly parents. God created him. The same meaning is implied when the bible calls Angels 'sons of God' (Job 1:6). This was the kind of relationship between the first Adam and God. He was merely a shadow. He didn't have the eternal life of God. He was God's product or His idea and bore his attributes. Adam didn't proceed from the father as Jesus did.

But Jesus Christ proceeded from the father (John 8:32).

The second Greek word for image is the word Eikon. Eikon is the word that is used for the Last Adam as the image of God.

2 Corinthians 4:4

...whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the IMAGE of God, should shine on them. (NKJV)

Colossians 1:15

He is the IMAGE of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. (NKJV)

The above passages are both talking about the Lord Jesus Christ and the Greek word for image in the above passages is the word Eikon. The Last Adam, who is our Lord Jesus, is the true image of the Father.

He was the very expression of the father.

Hebrews 1:3-4

Who being the brightness of His glory and the express IMAGE of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the majesty on high. (NKJV)

Here the Hebrew word used for image Eikon.

Jesus was the only begotten of the father (John 3:16). He proceeded forth from the father (John 8:42).

When we are born into this world, we bear the image of the first Adam. But when we become born again, we are born after the image of the Last Adam, who is our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus came to make it possible for man to bear his image. So you have a choice either to continue to bear the image of the first Adam or bear the image of the last Adam. It is God's plan and will that we bear the image of his son.

Romans 8:29

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the IMAGE of his son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. (NKJV)

The father expressed himself as the son. The son also came and expressed himself as the church. So as many as receive Jesus, they are given power to bear the image of the last Adam.

John 1:12-13

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in his name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of GOD. (NKJV)

They are given the right to become the Eikon of God. This means they become the very sons of God. All those who are in the first Adam are creations of God. But all those in the last Adam are sons, off springs of God. They are born by their parents but are born again by God in the spirit

1 Corinthians 15:48-49

As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly man, so also are those who are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly man(NKJV)

The forty ninth verse is a bit misleading in the English translation. The perfect rendition would have been 'Let us also bear' and not 'we shall also bear'. Most modern Bibles have footnotes on verse 49 which indicate that the literal translation should have been 'let us also bear'.

Therefore, when one is born again, he takes after Our Lord Jesus who is the image of God. The believer is therefore an Eikon of God.

This is what we mean by a new creation. When you are in Christ, you are a new species of being of a superior kind. Now you become a citizen of heaven (Philippians 3:20).

You hail from God (1John 4:4). God becomes your very father. He has the same love for you as he had for Jesus.

It was the father's intention that he would have many sons like Jesus (Rom 8:29) and that was what he accomplished in the death and resurrection of Jesus. Now we are the Lord's brethren. He is our elder brother. But we are not second borns. He is the firstborn and we are firstborns with him.

God doesn't have second borns. Jesus is God's firstborn and we are also first borns because we are joint heirs with him. (Romans 8:17)

Because we have become the brethren of the Lord Jesus, we have also become the Eikon of God. God sees us just as he saw Jesus. This is the good news.

We are like him, we are becoming like him and we shall be like him. Let me explain. We are like him now in our spirits. When we are born again, we become like him in our spirits.

1 John 4:17

Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because AS HE IS, SO ARE WE IN THIS WORLD. (NKJV)

We are becoming like him in our earthly walk. We are learning to walk, talk think and act like him (1 John 2:6).

We are being renewed into his image (Eph 4:23, Phil 2:5).

2 Corinthians 3:18

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same IMAGE from glory to glory, just as by the spirit of the Lord. (NKJV)

Colossians 3:10

And have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the IMAGE of him who created him. (NKJV)

We are already like him legally. But we also need to grow to be like him in our attitude and character.

Finally, we shall be like him when he comes.

1 John 3:2

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as He is. (NKJV)

We shall be like him in his glorious body. He was referring to his glorious body.

Philippians 3:20

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to his glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to himself. (NKJV)

This is what he has promised us. If we are like him now and are becoming like him, then we would also be like him when he appears.

He would give us a body like unto his own resurrected body. A glorious body. Praise God!

Culled directly from the message 'IN HIS IMAGE' by JOSEPH MINTAH