

Defined by Language Part 5 By Pastor Anthony Higginson

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Introduction

Last time I spoke to you concerning our series entitled ‘Defined by Language’, I spoke outlining that our Christian language is more than terminology, theology, doctrine or a belief, but with our language we adopt a new nature. Not everyone who speaks the bible has adopted this new nature, as many people have never understood the nature of Christianity.

Matthew 19:11 *Jesus replied, “Not everyone can accept this word, but only those to whom it has been given.”* By this word and through this word we must live move and have our being. This word not only lights and guides our path, but more so, defines who we are becoming and whose image and likeness we are being transformed into.

Genesis 1:26-27 *Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”* So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female.

God had to speak His word before man could take on the form, image and likeness of His creator, a principle that has never been revoked throughout time.

History shows that there is and has always been a battle going on in the universe for conformity, for what you conform to has it’s own unique image or likeness, as there is always a spirit found operating behind the scene, whether it’s God, humanistic or demonic. Now whether divine, demonic or humanistic the primary purpose is to influence, invade, fill or possess you the individual, to adopt it’s nature as the nature reflects the owner and creator behind the influence.

Nature means: The fundamental qualities of a person or a thing, the identity or essential character. The real appearance of a person or a thing.

John 17:8 *For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours.*

This is reciprocated in 1 John 1:1 *That which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands That which was from the beginning have touched — this we proclaim concerning the Word of life.*

When Jesus spoke the word to His disciples this is called ‘**Installation**’, for Jesus installed His nature into them and into us by His spoken and written word. **Remember**, salvation and forgiveness is received when you became born again, but **nature development** is ongoing.

The nature development has distinct traits and behaviour. An excerpt taken from “Spiritual Technologies” by Anthony Higginson (**This book can be purchased from the Dream Centre**) “Warning: **The CSP**(Calvary Software Package)

antidote serum is life changing and therefore should not be viewed as a natural phenomenon but must be viewed as being supernatural. If one begins sensing immediate changes to ones behavioural patterns, **do not be alarmed** as this is simply due to the antidote purging the body's system clean of past iniquities. All side effects are perfectly naturally supernatural and have therefore been specifically designed to reconfigure the body's thinking patterns with that of the manufacturers default specifications. If administered regularly, then visible signs should be immediate, displaying signs of joy gladness, healing, and forgiveness along with a renewed sense of purpose. (If you are unclear or are in doubt in any way then please refer to the manufacturer's instructions –the bible)."

2 Timothy 3:16 *All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

1. As we read God's word, the bible is teaching us about God's nature, revealing who He is and how we can please Him and know Him more.
2. As we read and fellowship around the word, our hearts are rebuked and corrected so we can come into alignment with Him, rather than us feeling ashamed, guilty, condemned or full of fear.
3. As we read and fellowship with God, we are renewed in heart and mind for we are trained by the spirit so as to become equipped for continuing our race. **But the key word in all this is the word 'thoroughly' as we must build a thorough nature.**

Dictionary word - Thoroughly means:

completely, comprehensively, conscientiously, efficiently, exhaustively, from top to bottom, fully, inside out, intensively, leaving no stone unturned, meticulously, painstakingly, scrupulously, sweepingly, through and through, and throughout.

Christ the born supremacy reflected His Father's thorough image and likeness.

Colossians 1:15-23 *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behaviour. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.*

Image - a representation or likeness of a person or thing, a person or thing that resembles another closely; double or copy.

Verb - to picture in the mind; imagine, to make or reflect an image of.

Likeness (noun)

- 1 The condition of being alike; similarity.
- 2 A painted, carved, moulded, or graphic image of a person or thing.
- 3 An imitative appearance; a resemblance.

Romans 8:29-35 *For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died more than that, who was raised to life is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?*

God through his thorough divine word nature is trying to steer His creation towards a process, whereby His image and His likeness is clearly reflected in us, His children. Now, remembering this we must also understand that other influences will try and influence you, so that you will then begin reflecting their image and likeness.

Deuteronomy 4:15-18 *You saw no form of any kind the day the LORD spoke to you at Horeb out of the fire. Therefore watch yourselves very carefully, so that you do not become corrupt and make for yourselves an idol, an image of any shape, whether formed like a man or a woman, or like any animal on earth or any bird that flies in the air, or like any creature that moves along the ground or any fish in the waters below.*

God is outlining the boundaries of reflection and why?

Psalms 115:2-8 *Why do the nations say, “Where is their God?” Our God is in heaven; he does whatever pleases him. But their idols are silver and gold, made by the hands of men. They have mouths, but cannot speak, eyes, but they cannot see; they have ears, but cannot hear, noses, but they cannot smell; they have hands, but cannot feel, feet, but they cannot walk; nor can they utter a sound with their throats. Those who make them will be like them.*

Acts 17:29-30 *“Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by man’s design and skill. In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.”*

The proof that you have His nature living within you is the measure of your trust and obedience placed in Him.

John 15 The pruning of every branch that does not bear fruit or fruit that does not reflect image and likeness has to be cut off in you the believer.

Matthew 28:17 *When they saw him, they worshiped him; **but some doubted.** Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*

1. Do you reflect Christ image and His likeness in loving others?
2. Do you reflect Christ image and His likeness when judging others?
3. Do you reflect Christ image and His likeness in serving the church and your fellow man?
4. Do you reflect Christ image and His likeness in your humility?
5. Do you reflect Christ image and His likeness in your personal private giving of finance?
6. Do you reflect Christ image and His likeness in your private world thinking?
7. Do you reflect Christ image and His likeness in your submission to spiritual/physical authority over you and your life?