WE ARE IMPORTANT!

By Keith Greer

In six literal days, God created the world and everything in it. The last thing He made – the pinnacle of all His creation – was man. From this fact, we learn that man is important to God. Several Bible truths lend evidence to this fact:

God created man in His image. "Then God said, let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth. So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." {Genesis 1:26,27} Only man was created in God's image. Only man has a living soul. {Genesis 2:7} God made us in His own image so we could have fellowship with Him. {1 Corinthians 1:9}

Christ died for us. "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone. For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings." {Hebrews 2:9,10} Jesus died for us while we were still sinners. {Romans 5:8} Because of God's love for mankind, He sent Jesus to earth to die a horrible death on the cross. {John 3:16} Jesus died to deliver us from our own sins. {Galatians 1:4} Never has man experienced a deeper love than the love God bestowed upon him.

He invites all to come to Him. "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." {Matthew 11:28-30} God desires all men to come and be with Him. All men are free to choose whether to accept God's offer. {Revelation 22:17} His is willing to accept all who are willing to work His righteousness. {Acts 10:34,35} Only mankind has been invited by his Creator to come and be with Him in His eternal home.

God is mindful of us. "When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained, what is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him? {Psalm 8:3,4} How wonderful to know that our Creator is mindful and concerned for our wellbeing. He wishes to supply all the needs we have during our lives. {Philippians 4:19} God is always there to help us when we need it. {Hebrews 13:5,6}

We are accountable to God for our actions. "So then each of us shall give account of himself to God." {Romans 14:12} God gave us life and free moral choice, but with those blessings comes accountability. God will hold us accountable for the choices we make in this life. {2 Corinthians 5:10} All of these choices will bring eternal consequences – one way or another!

Heaven awaits the faithful. "To an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." {1 Peter 1:4,5} Our race will not end until we draw our last

breath, or the Lord returns. We must prepare for both. Yet, we need not face the end with uncertainty. One who will live faithfully, knows what awaits us when this life is over – HEAVEN!

A deeper understanding of these truths should help us to draw ever closer to God with more love and appreciation for the special relationship we have with Him. Man was created on the final day of God's creative work – the pinnacle of His creation. Mankind was designed and created to have a very special relationship with his Creator. Remember, God did not make junk! ***