

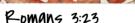
Genesis 1:27

So God created

mankind in his own

image, in the image of God he created them; male and temale he

created them.



for all have sinned and

fall short of the glory



Genesis 12:2-3

"I will make you into a great nation,

and I will bless you;
I will make your name great,

and you will be a blessing.
I will bless those who bless you,

and whoever curses you I will curse;

and all peoples on earth

will be blessed through you."



Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

The stories of God's people fall into 4 different patterns:

- * Drift into becoming like the other nations
- * Forgetting their purpose of being God-reflectors to the other nations
- * Live into their purpose of reflecting God to the other nations
- *The idolatrous and immoral ways of the world invade the holy space of God's people

Acts 10:11-15

He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles and birds. Then a voice told him, "Get up, Peter Kill and eat." "Surely not, Lord!" Peter replied. "I have never eaten anything impure or unclean." The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean."

THE TENSION: HOW DO WE COMMIT OURSELVES tO LIVING A HOLY LIFE WITHOUT DISMISSING OTHERS AS UNCLEAN?

Ginger

Acts 10:27-28

While talking with him, Peter went inside and found a large gathering of people. He said to them: "You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with or visit a Gentile. But God has shown me that I should not call anyone impure or unclean.

Acts 10:34-36

Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus. Christ, who is Lord of all.

Acts 11:17-18

So if God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could stand in God's way?". When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, "So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads

Romans 3:22-24

There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.