

# CHAPTER 7

## DYNAMICS OF LIKENESS

**E**xploring human design leads to a beautiful, highly active, and continuous reality. The previous chapter established a foundational and undeniable truth: the Creator lovingly provided the ultimate Kinsman-Redeemer through the Incarnate Word. By stepping into the terrestrial realm and taking on physical flesh, this perfect Redeemer flawlessly governed His human vessel, achieved absolute righteousness, and paid the unpayable debt of physical death in full.

Because the structural hardware of the human mind remains permanently intact from the moment of formation, every individual inherently possesses the cognitive capacity to awaken, evaluate the truth, and deliberately choose to return home to the Creator. However, this initial return is not the end of the scriptural story; it is the breathtaking beginning of a new daily walk. This chapter focuses entirely on the following aspects:

**First**, the active daily operation of the human software once it is restored to life.

**Second**, this chapter serves as a gentle reminder of previous chapters.

**Third**, the core thesis of this chapter is that human beings operate with a permanently stable image and a highly dynamic and ever-changing likeness. This likeness is maintained daily through the perfect and present realities of

salvation, the empowering deposit of the Holy Spirit, and the continuous governance of the mind.

Furthermore, this exhaustive study was conducted in three detailed phases.

**Phase 1** establishes the contextual foundation by exploring the journey from innocence to active obedience, using specific historical narratives from the earthly life of the Incarnate Word to demonstrate this dynamic research in perfect action.

**Phase 2** conducts a granular lexical and syntactic analysis into the original languages, unpacking the precise mechanics of salvation, life, and the spirit of faith to reveal how they function within human beings.

**Phase 3** provides a theological coherence alignment, securely connecting these granular findings to the broader scriptural blueprint and revealing how humans can maintain this beautiful relationship until the eternal resurrection.

Now, let us review and consider our permanent Image as well as our Dynamic Likeness!

## **Phase 1: Contextual Foundation**

Again, to fully understand the daily active reflection of the Creator, it is necessary to establish the historical, cultural, and immediate scriptural context of the human journey. The biblical narrative presents human life as a deeply relational experience. It is a design intended to operate freely and beautifully through love, rather than mechanical force or robotic programming.

The original state of procreated humanity is defined as totally innocence, safe and secure. As established in the

earliest historical records, humans are in a perfect state of grace.

And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed (Gen. 2:25).

This initial state of being naked and unashamed represents a perfect, unmarred condition. Every child enters the terrestrial realm in an identical state of structural perfection and profound innocence. They possess a completely righteous likeness to their origin. They are safe, innocent, and fully enveloped in the Creator's mercy, completely free from the heavy burden of guilt or fear.

However, as children grow and their physical bodies develop strength, their minds simultaneously begin to observe the surrounding environment. Eventually, they reach an era of accountability, in which their cognitive discernment is fully activated. At this stage, a tragic and highly common shift occurs in the terrestrial world.

When the human mind is pressured by the immediate demands of the physical environment, it frequently makes the deliberate, unfortunate choice to exchange the eternal truth of the Creator for temporal earthly non-truths. Because of this deliberate mental decision to trust the flesh over the Creator, the individual's functional likeness becomes heavily marred. They transition from being "naked and not ashamed" to being "naked and ashamed." By choosing non-truth, they become functionally disobedient.

However, the Creator's design is brilliant, resilient, and profoundly merciful. Because the structural image of a human being remains permanently intact and secure, individuals

always retain the latent ability to stop, evaluate their poor choices, and engage in a profound change of mind. This change of mind—biblical repentance—allows the individual to completely change their spiritual status. By recognizing their error and turning back to the eternal truth, they step out of disobedience and return to being obedient children of the Creator.

This process proves a magnificent scriptural reality. The structural image of the human being is stable and permanent, while the functional likeness is highly dynamic, fluctuating based entirely on the daily choices of the reasoning mind.

To see this dynamic likeness maintained perfectly in the physical world, the Scriptures provide powerful historical narratives of Jesus Christ's earthly life. As the Incarnate Word, Jesus inhabited the same physical container as every other human, complete with vast biological drives for survival, comfort, food, and emotional safety. Yet, He constantly utilized His reasoning mind to choose eternal truth, proving that a perfectly righteous relationship is possible in the terrestrial realm.

### **Narrative 1: Overcoming Biological Temptation**

The first major historical proof of dynamic likeness in action is found in the life of Joseph in Egypt, occurring approximately in 2217 AM (1543 BCE). As a young man serving in the house of Potiphar, Joseph's physical vessel was at the peak of its biological strength and development.

And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, "Lie with me." But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Behold, because of me, my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my charge... How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?" (Gen. 39:7-9).

Joseph was presented with a temptation that offered both intense biological gratification and immense temporal advantage. The physical flesh, programmed to desire pleasure and safety, had every earthly reason to accept the offer. If he had yielded, his functional likeness would have been heavily marred.

However, Joseph maintained his dynamic likeness by actively gathering information and evaluating the temporal non-truth of the moment against the eternal truth. He deliberately placed his firm confidence in the Creator's moral standard and physically fled the room. He proved that the reasoning mind can successfully govern the most powerful biological drives of the human vessel, even when obedience results in immediate punishment.

## **Narrative 2: Overcoming the Instinct for Despair**

A second, profound historical example occurred during the early expansion of the church around 3811 AM (51 CE). The Apostle Paul and his companion Silas were severely beaten by a mob and thrown into the inner prison at Philippi, with their feet fastened in stocks.

The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them (Acts 16:22-25).

The physical containers of these two men were severely traumatized by these events. Their flesh transmits entirely valid signals of extreme biological pain, exhaustion and injustice. In a dark, unsanitary dungeon, the instinct is to yield to despair, panic, or intense anger toward the Creator. Yet, their reasoning minds, empowered by the active presence of the Holy Spirit, refused to abdicate the throne of their hearts.

They actively governed these physical signals, maintaining their dynamic likeness by choosing to sing hymns of praise at midnight. This perfectly illustrates present-tense salvation: the human mind actively subordinating the agonizing pain of the flesh to the eternal truth and joy of the Creator.

### **Narrative 3: Overcoming the Instinct for Self-Preservation**

The ultimate, most extreme historical proof of mind-over-flesh governance by a redeemed human is found in the martyrdom of Stephen, occurring exactly in 3794 AM (34 CE). Stephen was dragged out of the city by an enraged religious

council and actively stoned to death.

The biological instinct to survive, fight back, or curse one's attackers is the strongest temporal drive within the human body. However, the biblical text explicitly notes the condition of his internal software.

But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God (Acts 7:55).

As the heavy stones crushed his physical vessel, Stephen's reasoning mind completely maintained its governance over his panicked flesh. He achieved perfect functional likeness by literally imitating the Last Adam.

And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep (Acts 7:60).

Stephen did not rely on fleshly retaliation; instead, he used his final breath to bestow eternal grace. This singular mental decision under extreme duress proves that the human mind, empowered by divine life, can successfully govern the physical body until the point of death.

## **Phase 2: Lexical & Syntactic Analysis**

To fully grasp how modern humans can participate in this exact same dynamic likeness today, we must move beneath the surface of the English translations and unpack the mechanical gears of the original Hebrew and Koine Greek. The

biblical text operates as a precise mathematical blueprint. Every root word, grammatical tense, and syntactic structure explains exactly how the reasoning mind interacts with the Spirit to achieve salvation and eternal life.

## **The Permanent Image and Dynamics Likeness**

The foundation of human operation rests entirely on the original design blueprint. The biblical text maintains a strict and unyielding distinction between the permanent hardware of humans and changeable software.

The Hebrew and Greek words for ‘image’ are *Tselem* and *Eikon*. Lexically, *Tselem* comes from a root word meaning to shade, indicating a concrete outline, a representative figure, or a structurally secure hardware framework. The Image is the permanent, indestructible tripartite creation of human beings. It does not grow, evolve, or change according to human behavior.

An individual who lives a life of utter unrighteousness possesses the exact same *Tselem* as an individual who lives righteously. It is permanently installed by the Creator at the exact moment of formation.

Conversely, the Hebrew word for ‘likeness’ is *Demuth*, which parallels the Greek word for ‘resemblance,’ *Homoioma*. Derived from a root meaning to resemble or compare, *Demuth* refers directly to the functional software of the human being. It is an active behavioral resemblance to the Creator.

While the Image is entirely stable and permanently secure—reflecting the unchanging Dynamic Essence of Yahweh—the Likeness is entirely dynamic. It fluctuates constantly based on the daily decisions made by the reasoning

mind and is intended to continuously mirror the Creator's active Dynamic Expression in the terrestrial realm. When the mind chooses eternal truth, the Likeness beautifully reflects the Creator. When the mind chooses temporal non-truth, the Likeness becomes inherently marred.

## **The Plurality of Life**

When the Creator originally built this dynamic system, He provided a highly specific spiritual component to power it. The impartation of this power is detailed in the historical account of creation.

Then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature (Gen. 2:7).

The Hebrew and Greek words for 'breath' are *Neshamah* and *Pneuma*, respectively. The *Neshamah* is a unique divine spark that confers understanding, intellect, and the capacity for moral reasoning exclusively to humanity. However, the specific syntax of Genesis 2:7 holds a massive theological revelation regarding the nature of human existence.

The Hebrew word for 'life' is *Chayyim*, which parallels the Greek word for 'life', *Zoe*. In the original Hebrew text of Genesis 2:7, the word *Chayyim* is entirely plural. The text literally translates to the "spirit of lives." This plural form is not a grammatical accident but rather a profound architectural truth.

The Creator did not merely impart biological and temporal life to the physical flesh. By breathing the "spirit of

lives,” He imparts both temporal, physical animation to the terrestrial realm and the absolute capacity for an eternal, synergetic spiritual relationship with the Divine.

Humans are designed to operate in two realms simultaneously: managing the physical vessel in the physical world while maintaining an unbroken spiritual connection with Yahweh. When the first humans chose non-truth, they suffered a severe spiritual fracture, losing the eternal aspect of their “lives.” Therefore, the Incarnate Word’s work was necessary to restore access to divine *Zoe*—the uncreated, eternal, and spiritual life of Yahweh.

## **The Perfect and Present Tenses of Salvation**

When the functional likeness of humanity became marred, the Incarnate Word provided the means to restore the spiritual relationship. This restoration is known as salvation. The Hebrew word for ‘salvation’ is *Yeshuah*, which parallels the Greek word for ‘salvation,’ *Soteria*. Derived from the Greek verb meaning to save, *Sozo*, *Soteria* means being rescued, delivered, preserved, and made entirely whole.

However, a complete understanding of how this rescue operation works requires absolute precision in Greek grammatical tenses. The biblical blueprint utilizes highly specific verb tenses to explain how salvation operates both as a secure and unshakeable foundation and as a dynamic daily reality. Many modern English translations struggle to convey this nuance, but the original Koine Greek maintains this mathematical precision.

**The first critical grammatical structure is the perfect tense.**

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God (Eph. 2:8).

In the original Greek, the phrase “have been saved” utilizes the perfect passive participle, *Sesosmenoi*. In Greek syntax, the perfect tense indicates a completed action that occurred definitively in the past but produces ongoing and continuous results that remain active in the present.

This proves a magnificent truth: the atoning work of the Incarnate Word was flawless and completed entirely on the cross. The heavy debt of unrighteousness was paid in full. Believers do not need to repeat the sacrifice, nor do they need to earn the means to be saved. The perfect tense guarantees that the foundation of grace is secure and complete. The passive voice indicates that this salvation was performed upon the person by the Creator, not achieved by the person’s own merit.

**The second critical grammatical structure is the present tense.**

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God (1 Cor. 1:18).

The original Greek text uses the present passive participle, *Sozomenous*. The present tense in Greek dictates a continuous,

ongoing, active process.

While the perfect tense establishes a permanent foundation, the present tense dictates daily operations of the human software. Salvation is not merely a static ticket stamped in the past; it is a dynamic and daily reality. The individual is “being saved” every single day as their mind continuously chooses to trust the eternal truth over the temporal instincts of the flesh. They are actively being preserved from the corruption of the terrestrial realm by walking in daily obedience.

## **The Spirit of Faith and the Mind of Christ**

To successfully navigate this continuous present-tense salvation, humans require the correct operational tools. The Apostle Paul beautifully defines this mechanism of governance.

Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, “I believed, and so I spoke,” we also believe, and so we also speak (2 Cor. 4:13).

The Greek word for ‘mind’ is *Nous*. The Greek word for ‘faith’ is *Pistis*. In this profound passage, Paul directly quotes the ancient Psalms (Ps. 116:10), proving that the exact same mechanical operation used by the faithful in the Old Testament era is fully available today. The “spirit of faith” is not a blind, emotional leap into the dark, nor is it a mystical feeling. Lexically, *Pistis* means firm persuasion, deep conviction, and active reliance upon the truth.

When an individual chooses to participate in Yahweh’s

mercy and grace through faith in the Incarnate Word, their reasoning mind, *Nous*, undergoes a profound spiritual realignment. Through the impartation of the Holy Spirit, they develop what the scriptures call the “mind of Christ” (1 Cor. 2:16). The mind of Christ is the beautifully restored capacity to view the physical world through the lens of eternal truth.

With the mind of Christ fully active, individuals can continuously evaluate the temporal demands of their physical vessels. They can actively subordinate their physical conduct to the eternal standard and become true imitators of Christ’s life. This continuous mental governance ensures that the dynamic Likeness beautifully and accurately reflects the Creator’s moral character in the world.

### **Phase 3: Theological Coherence Alignment**

Having meticulously decoded the historical narratives and precise mechanical language of the original text, the final step is to align these findings into a perfectly coherent theological framework. The biblical blueprint does not present fragmented ideas about salvation, faith, and human behavior; it offers a single, flawless, self-interpreting system that explains the human journey from the initial change of mind to the ultimate reality of eternal resurrection.

### **The Deposit of the Holy Spirit and Zoe Life**

When an individual makes the beautiful mental decision to stop trusting in temporal non-truth, repents of their unrighteousness, and chooses the Incarnate Word as

their personal Lord and Savior, a profound synergetic spiritual relationship immediately begins. In His infinite love, the Creator does not leave individuals to navigate the intense pressures of the terrestrial realm alone. The scriptures reveal that the Holy Spirit is directly given to believers as a vital component of this relationship.

In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory (Eph. 1:13-14).

The Greek word for ‘guarantee’ is *Arrhabon*. Originally, this was not a religious term; it was an ancient legal and commercial term representing a literal deposit or down payment that secured a future reality. The Holy Spirit is provided as direct evidence of the synergetic spiritual relationship with Yahweh. Through the active presence of the Holy Spirit, believers gain access to divine *Zoe*, the uncreated, eternal spiritual life of Yahweh. This *Zoe* life empowers the mind of Christ, allowing individuals to govern their physical conduct.

However, theological coherence requires absolute precision regarding the function of the deposit. The Holy Spirit does not force individuals to obey or violently override human reasoning. The deposit guarantees that the perfect tense of salvation is fully available and structurally secure, but it does not guarantee that the individual is locked into a permanent state in which their free will is destroyed. The present tense of salvation is actively transpiring. Believers must continue to

willingly use their minds to walk in the “spirit of faith,” maintaining their spiritual realignment through the gentle guidance of the Holy Spirit.

### **The Tragedy of Apostasy vs. Missing the Mark**

Because the Creator operates exclusively through His essence of love, He never uses force or coercion to maintain a relationship. By its structural definition, love requires the free, ongoing, and unforced choice of the mind. Therefore, it is a sobering scriptural reality that an individual who has chosen to participate in Yahweh’s mercy and grace can, tragically, choose to “un-choose” that mercy while the breath of the spirit of life is still present in their lungs.

This profound reality necessitates a clear and granular distinction between temporal mistakes and true apostasy. The Hebrew and Greek words for ‘sin’ are *Chata* and *Hamartia*. Lexically, these terms simply mean, “to miss the mark.”

In the daily dynamic process of present-tense salvation, believers occasionally stumble. The intense pressures, anxieties, or hungers of the physical flesh may momentarily override the reasoning mind, causing the individual to miss the mark of perfect righteousness.

When this occurs, the Holy Spirit provides gentle, loving, internal conviction. The believer recognizes the error, repents (changes their mind), and the synergetic relationship continues beautifully, without interruption or change. A mistake does not sever the relationship; it is a learning moment perfectly covered within the grace of the perfect tense.

However, apostasy is mechanically and fundamentally different. Apostasy is not a momentary stumble or a difficult

struggle with a specific, fleshly flaw. It is a deliberate, calculated, and purposeful decision to divorce oneself from a spiritual relationship with Yahweh. It is a tragic mental decision to look directly at the eternal truth, taste the sweet honey of grace, and deliberately turn back to a permanent, unyielding pattern of non-truth. This is a conscious backtracking process.

Because Yahweh graciously honors the profound dignity of human free will, He does not force reconciliation on people. He lovingly encourages all individuals not to miss the mark and continually offers them His mercy and grace. However, in the end, His perfect justice will grant individuals the ultimate desires of their hearts and minds. If an individual purposefully and permanently demands separation from the Creator, Yahweh sorrowfully permits divorce.

## **The Ultimate Destiny: The Resurrections**

For those who maintain their mental spiritual realignment and faithfully run the race with the mind of Christ, the dynamic likeness experienced throughout the various stages of life leads to a glorious and permanent destiny. The present-tense reality of being saved is available to all humans, regardless of when or where they exist within time and history, because the perfect payment of the Last Adam transcends all temporal eras.

The ultimate physical relationship of the redeemed finds its absolute destiny in an eternal spiritual relationship. This is because human beings were originally formed with the plural “spirit of lives” (Gen. 2:7); physical death is not the end of existence. Every human being who has returned to dust—

whether in Christ Jesus or not—will participate in a physical resurrection.

The biblical blueprint delineates two distinct resurrections, representing the final and eternal culmination of human free will. Those who have actively chosen Yahweh through faith in His Word (both the written truth and the Incarnate Word) will participate in the first resurrection. This magnificent event results in the complete glorification of one's physical body. It permanently unites the unmarred structural Image with a perfectly secure, unchangeable Likeness, resulting in eternal life in the direct, unhindered presence of Yahweh the Creator.

Conversely, those who have tragically used their free will to permanently reject Yahweh, placing their ultimate faith in temporal non-truth and choosing the path of apostasy or lifelong disobedience, will participate in the second resurrection. Because they purposefully divorced themselves from the source of *Zoe* life, this resurrection results in eternal death, a permanent and sorrowful separation from the Creator.

The timeline for these magnificent eschatological events is established with mathematical precision in the biblical text. The chronological sequence reveals that those who choose Yahweh and are alive when the current era concludes will be caught up to eternal life before the arrival of the great tribulation.

Based on the exact, silent chronological data embedded in the scriptures, anchored perfectly to the cross on Nisan 14, 3790 AM (April 3, 30 CE), this great tribulation is scheduled to begin in 5996.5 AM (2236 CE). This precise timeline proves that the Creator is entirely sovereign, perfectly executing His

plan to rescue humanity while meticulously honoring the mechanics of human design.

## **CONCLUSION**

This exhaustive and granular examination of the original languages, historical narratives, and theological mechanics reveals a definitive and beautiful truth about the dynamics of human likeness. The findings conclusively prove that humans are structurally engineered with a permanent, unmarred Image but possess a highly dynamic Likeness that changes based entirely on the daily decisions of the reasoning mind.

Through the flawless atoning work of the Incarnate Word, Jesus Christ, humanity has been provided with a perfect means to restore its fractured spiritual relationship. By viewing salvation not merely as a static ticket but through the precise Greek grammar of the perfect tense (the completed foundation) and the present tense (the ongoing daily process), the true and active nature of the Christian walk is fully illuminated.

Believers are called to continuously utilize the “mind of Christ” and the “spirit of faith” to deliberately subordinate the temporal instincts of their flesh to the eternal truth of the Creator, perfectly imitating the earthly life of Jesus. Because the Creator breathed the plural “spirit of lives” into humanity at the dawn of creation, humans possess a magnificent capacity for both terrestrial animation and for eternal spiritual intimacy.

The Holy Spirit is lovingly provided as a deposit, empowering believers to maintain spiritual re-alignment.

However, because Yahweh's love never operates by force, the individual retains free will. They must actively choose to remain in grace, understanding the profound difference between momentarily missing the mark and the tragic, purposeful divorce of apostasy.

Ultimately, the dynamic Likeness experienced in this physical life prepares the individual for their final destiny. Those who maintain their faith in the Incarnate Word will find their ultimate culmination in the first resurrection, resulting in a glorious, eternal life in the presence of Yahweh that perfectly reflects His love and moral character forever.

## **PRACTICALITY AND ENCOURAGEMENT**

Understanding the highly active and dynamic nature of your Likeness offers immense comfort and profound encouragement for your daily walk. It is common to feel overwhelmed by the intense and natural demands of the physical world. There are days when your flesh feels incredibly loud, demanding immediate comfort, safety, or retaliation.

You may occasionally stumble and miss the mark. When this happens, the enemy often attempts to convince you that your relationship with the Creator is permanently shattered and that you are beyond repair. However, the scriptural blueprint provides a radically beautiful perspective. A mistake is not apostasy.

Your salvation rests securely on the perfect and completed work of the Last Adam. You do not have to earn the foundation of your rescue to be saved. When you stumble, you simply need to pause, engage your reasoning mind, recognize the temporal non-truth that deceived you, and gently change

your mind. The Holy Spirit is present within you as a loving guarantee, ready to help you realign your thoughts with eternal truth.

You possess the “mind of Christ.” You have the exact same structural tools that Jesus used to overcome starvation in the wilderness, exhaustion at the well, and the ultimate terror in Gethsemane. Righteousness is not a stressful demand for flawless, robotic perfection; it is a beautiful daily process of allowing the love of the Creator to naturally guide your decisions.

By resting securely in this truth, you can step into each day with quiet confidence, knowing that your dynamic Likeness is being actively transformed to reflect the magnificent character of your Creator.

## **A PRAYER OF CHALLENGE FOR REDEMPTION**

Father, I stop right now to recognize the immense and flawless love embedded in your design. I acknowledge that I have allowed the loud, temporary instincts of my physical flesh to override the eternal truth of Your Word. I have missed the mark, and I have allowed my functional likeness to be marred by trusting in things that do not last.

Today, I make a deliberate and reasoned choice to change my mind. I repent. I turn away from temporal non-truth and fully embrace the perfect, completed payment made by the Incarnate Word, Jesus Christ. Thank You for not forcing my obedience but for patiently drawing me back through the power of Your mercy and grace.

I ask that the deposit of Your Holy Spirit actively illuminates my mind. Grant me the courage to walk every day in the relationship of my salvation, continuously choosing truth. Help me to utilize the mind of Christ so that my daily physical conduct would naturally and beautifully reflect Your eternal character to a broken world. I choose to live my life by the spirit of faith, anchoring my ultimate hope in the promise of eternal life and the resurrection. I love You because You first loved me. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen. Amen!

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come! All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and

entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God (2 Cor. 5:17-20).