

# U-TURN AHEAD #2

**Introduction:** Summary of last week's message.

- Are humans just a chess-move between God and Satan?
- How does God see me?

## 1. Good Image / Bad Image

- What image do you want to display?
  - Manner, clothes, hairstyle, lifestyle...
- Social media can enhance or destroy your image.

**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 live-stock, 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 he created them.*

*God is good, he is creative, and he is social.*

- To rule wisely humanity needs:
  - Good morals, standards, fairness
  - Mentally creatively, emotionally stable, problem solver'
  - Social: relational with God and each other involving love, patience, joy, goodness, resists evil.

QUOTE: the image of God is God's investment in humanity of God-like glory and moral capacity to reign and rule the earth as his representatives.

## 2. Defaced but not Destroyed.

- Humanity knows that something is amiss.
- From humanity's break with God, it only took ONE generation before violence set in (Cain and Abel)
- There is still a craving for a lost Eden in all of us
- Humanity has made laws, secular and religious, aimed at keeping some checks on society and God.
  - From the rise of ancient civilizations to the rise of Nazis, communism, nationalism and secularism, all seek to keep a check on society.
  - All have been found wanting / inevitably fail.

**Colossians 3:10** *...and put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator...*

- New self- born of the Spirit.
- Renewed in knowledge of God.
  - Knowledge, not just information
- Issue of the heart.

## 3 Good Heart Bad Heart

**Proverbs 27:19** *As water reflects a face, so a man's heart reflects the man.*

- Heart – centre for physical, emotional, intellectual, moral activity
  - Heart and soul can be used interchangeably.
- Jesus tells the story of two men who looked in the mirror of the soul and came up with a different view of themselves

**Luke 18:10-14** *Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like the other men – robbers, evildoers, adulterers – or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'*

*But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'*

*I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.'*

- Why did the Pharisee miss it?

**Luke 6:45** *The good man brings good things out of the good stored in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.*

- Its about storage [potato illustration]
- Store or feed good into your heart.
- Draw from your storeroom of good to fight temptation.
- What comes out of your mouth is an indicator.

#### **4. How Does God See Me?**

- What's your reputation like
- People of Crete reputation
  - Liars, evil brutes or cruel beasts, lazy gluttons. (Titus 1.12)
  - Yet look at what follows.

**Titus 2:14** *...who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.*

- Redeem: to deliver from consequences and give life purpose.
- Purify: Ongoing if right response.
- Remember the eunuch last week? (Is 56:5)
  - He was given an everlasting name that will NOT be cut off.