

## Finding the Image of God in the Scriptures

A uniquely Christian perspective on the image of God is that Jesus Christ is the fullest and most complete example of a human in God's image. Hebrews 1:1 refers to him as "the very image of his substance" and Colossians 1:15 reveals Jesus as "the image of the invisible God". This is relevant to [Christology](#) which is beyond the scope of this article. Christians however would look to the teachings and example of Jesus to guide their spiritual maturity and conformity to the image of God.

The Beatitudes in Matthew 5:3-12, Colossians Chapter 3, Gospel of John chapters 1-12, and the book of Deuteronomy chapters 6-30 describe the image of God as the moral positives of the Ten Commandments. When the Ten Commandments are separated into moral opposites, seven vices or moral negatives and seven virtues or moral positives result. The seven vices are pride, rebellion, hatred/bitterness, defilement, theft/slothfulness, deceit, and greed/covetousness. The seven virtues or moral positives are humility, obedience, forgiveness/compassion, purity, diligence, honesty, and gratefulness. Failure to see (Matthew 5:8) the Beatitudes, or light (Matthew 5:14-16), or the moral positives of the Ten Commandments (Mark 7:8,13, John 3:19-21) results in the moral negatives of the Ten Commandments (Mark 7:11-12, 14-23). Colossians Chapter 3 contrasts all seven moral opposites of the Ten Commandments. The moral opposites in Colossians 3 contrasts the character of the old man with the image of God found in the new man. See Colossians 3:9-10 for reference to the image of God. The seven moral positives of the Ten Commandments are in the same sequence as the Beatitudes. An outline of the word pictures in the Gospel of John chapters 1-12 and the book of Deuteronomy chapters 6-30 are a contrast of the same seven moral opposites in the same sequence as the Beatitudes. A word picture example of the moral opposites of gratefulness and greed is shown by Mary and Judas in John 12:1-6. Gratefulness is shown by Mary in John 12:1-3. Greed is shown by Judas in John 12:4-6. Another example of greed is pictured in John 11:48. The basis for humility is described as the typological journey (1Corinthians 10:1-13, Ephesians 2:8-10) to maturity in Deuteronomy 8:3-20. This passage also warns of the pathway to pride. These observations or correlations are a fulfillment of Deuteronomy 30:11-15, John 5:46, John 12:44-50, John 14:21-24, Matthew 5:14-16, and Rev 12:17.

<b>Moral Opposites of the Ten Commandments</b>	
<b>Negatives (Vices)</b>	<b>Positives (Virtues)</b>
Pride	Humility
Rebellion	Obedience
Bitterness	Forgiveness
Defilement	Purity
Theft	Diligence
Deceit	Honesty
Greed	Gratefulness

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<b>Moral Opposites of the Ten Commandments in Deuteronomy</b>	
<b>Moral Opposite Pairs Described in Word Pictures</b>	<b>Chapters in Deuteronomy</b>
Pride vs. Humility	Chapters 6-9
Rebellion vs. Obedience	Chapters 9-18
Bitterness vs. Forgiveness	Chapters 19-22
Defilement vs. Purity	Chapters 22-23
Theft vs. Diligence	Chapters 23-25
Deceit vs. Honesty	Chapters 25-28
Greed vs. Gratefulness	Chapters 28-30

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<b>Moral Opposites of the Ten Commandments in the Gospel of John</b>	
<b>Moral Opposite Pairs Described in Word Pictures</b>	<b>Chapters in the Gospel of John</b>
Pride vs. Humility	Chapter 1
Rebellion vs. Obedience	Chapters 1-2
Bitterness vs. Forgiveness	Chapters 2-3
Defilement vs. Purity	Chapters 3-4
Theft vs. Diligence	Chapters 4-6
Deceit vs. Honesty	Chapters 6-10
Greed vs. Gratefulness	Chapters 11-12