

A. No; but God created man good, and after his own image -- that is, in righteousness and true holiness; that he might rightly know God his Creator, heartily love him, and live with him in eternal blessedness, to praise and glorify him.

The Irish Articles of Religion (A.D. 1615), Article 21, states:

Man being at the beginning created according to the image of God (which consisted especially in the wisdom of his mind and the true holiness of his free will), had the covenant of the law ingrafted in his heart, whereby God did promise unto him everlasting life upon condition that he performed entire and perfect obedience unto his Commandments, according to that measure of strength wherewith he was endued in his creation, and threatened death unto him if he did not perform the same.

The Westminster Confession of Faith (A.D. 1647), Chapter 4, section 2, states:

After God had made all other creatures, he created man, male and female, with reasonable and immortal souls, endued with knowledge, righteousness, and true holiness, after his own image, having the law of God written in their hearts, and power to fulfill it; and yet under a possibility of transgressing, being left to the liberty of their own will, which was subject to change. Beside this law written in their hearts, they received a command not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil; which while they kept they were happy in their communion with God, and had dominion over the creatures.

2. Scriptural background to the doctrine
 - a. Scripture tells us that mankind was originally created in the image of God

Genesis 1:26-28 -- "Then God said, 'Let us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.' And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. And God blessed them; and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.' "

Genesis 5:1 -- 'This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day when God created man, He made him in the likeness of God.
 - b. Scripture tells us that fallen mankind still bears the image of God in some meaningful sense

Genesis 9:6 -- 'Whoever sheds man's blood,
By man his blood shall be shed,
For in the image of God He made them.