

A Vision of God

Introduction:

- A. The term “express image” is the very word from which we get our word *character* today.
 1. Jesus – as stated in **Hebrews 1:3** – is the *express image or the exact representation or exact imprint of God (His nature, being, essence = person)*.
 2. In other words, if we want to truly see God, we need look no further than His Son.

Discussion:

I. Jesus: Express Image of God

- A. When comparing our lives to God's standard:
 1. It doesn't take long at all to see how sinful we are. **Psa. 14:1-3; Ecc. 7:20**
 2. For this very reason we look to our merciful God for salvation. **Rom. 7:24**
- B. To this end God sent Jesus as the *express image of Himself*. **Heb. 1:1-5**
 1. He was perfect in law keeping. Cp. **Jn. 1:17-18**
 2. More so, He conducted Himself as an obedient servant. **Phil. 2:5ff**
 3. His **character** was perfect in every realm of life: responsible, respectful, gracious, courageous, obedient, compassionate, merciful.
 4. To see Jesus is to see a vision of God.

II. Application

Having a vision of God means nothing unless we conform our lives into the image of His Son.

III. Conforming Our Lives to the Express Image of Jesus Christ

- A. As God's workmanship we're made to be conformed to the image of His Son. **Eph. 2:10**
- B. God continuously “chisels” off the undesirable characteristics of the flesh so that what is left is the image (Gr: *charakter*) of Christ. cp. **Heb. 12:11; Rom. 8:29**
- C. Ultimately, through Christ others can see God in us. **Matt. 5:16**

Conclusion:

- A. Do you want to see God ... look no further than Jesus Christ.
- B. Do you want others (family, friends, co-workers, etc.) to see Him ... conform your life into the express image of His Son.