**What Is Man?**

**When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,**

**the moon and the stars that you have established;**

**what are human beings that you are mindful of them,**

**mortals that you care for them?**

**Yet you have made them a little lower than God,**

**and crowned them with glory and honor.**

***(Psalm 8:3-5)***

**I have said, “Ye are gods;**

**And all of you are children of the most High.”**

***(Psalm 82:6)***

**You created my inmost self,**

**knit me together in my mother’s womb.**

**For so many marvels I thank you.**

**A wonder am I, and all your works are wonders.**

***(Psalm 139)***

**Jesus said to them,**

**“Is it not so written in your law,**

**I said, you are gods?”**

***(St. John 10:34)***

**Behold, all of you are like kindling wood and the sparks of the kindling.**

**Walk in the light of your fire and in the sparks that you have kindled.**

***(Isaiah 50:11)***

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**Man is the only animal that plants grass in the spring, then fights its growth all summer. *(Ralph Hadley, in Good Housekeeping)***

**Man is the only animal that goes to sleep when he's not sleepy and gets up when he is. (Dave Gneiser)**

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**We are part animal. Humanity is an aspiration, not a fact of everyday life. (William McIlvanney, novelist)**

**The Wall Street Journal reporter Erik Larson says that human body particles are causing computer problems. He writes that “each particle is capable of destroying a semiconductor circuit, the ‘chip’ that makes computers think.” *(John Ross Schroeder, in Plain Truth magazine)***

**We are an impossibility in an impossible universe. *(Ray Bradbury)***

**Man is the only animal that can remain on friendly terms with the victims he intends to eat until he eats them. *(Samuel Butler)***

**Man will become better only when you will make him see what he is like. *(Anton Chekhov)***

**The human being is more than a package of flesh and blood localized in time and space. In fact we have two homes, one local, the other infinite . . . you cannot see yourself accurately until you become aware of both your identities. The mistake of the intellect occurs when the mind forgets its real source – the one intelligence flowing through every cell – and becomes hopelessly lost in the many. *(Deepak Chopra, in Perfect Health)***

**Compared with everything, I’m nothing – but compared with nothing, I’m at least something. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**You not only make a difference, you ARE the difference! *(Unity Headquarters Highlights)***

**Man is a creature that can get accustomed to anything, and I think that is the best definition of him. *(Fyodor Dostoyevsky)***

**Man is the only animal who’ll eat with an enemy, say the psychologists. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**The shark has existed on earth for 400 million years and dolphins for 40 million years, whereas humans have existed for only 400,000 years. We have much indeed to learn from our animal neighbors. *(Warren D. Thomas, in Dolphin Conferences, p. x)***

**WHAT A PIECE OF WORK IS MAN!: Does automation scare you? The whole process of human life from conception through gestation to birth is entirely automated. After birth, despite parental ignorance of the process, the child grows from seven to 70 pounds. Biological growth is entirely automated. For at least 2 million years, men have been reproducing and multiplying on a little automated space ship called Earth, in an automated universe in which the entire process is so successfully predesigned that men did not even know that they were automated, regenerative passengers on a space ship, and were so naive as to think that they had invented their own success as they lived egocentrically on a seemingly static earth. *(R. Buckminster Fuller, in Saturday Review)***

**We differ from apes in only one percent of our genetic makeup. *(Jim Collins, in Old Farmer’s Almanac)***

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**Did you ever think that you are God’s ears and God’s mouth and God’s eyes? You have doubtless heard these statements before, but you have taken them metaphorically, but it is true that man is God, formulated. *(Charles Fillmore, in Atom-Smashing Power of God, p. 58)***

**By showing their gods and goddesses as immortal men and women with all the human passions, fears, and hopes, the Greeks made men and women more godlike. The hybrid nature of man would remain a dominant theme in Judaism and Christianity. *(Daniel J. Boorstin)***

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**Our greatest desire is to govern ourselves – our greatest need is to be protected from ourselves. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**If the earth’s history could be compressed into a single year, the first eight months would be completely without life, the next two would see only the most primitive creatures, mammals wouldn’t appear until the second week in December, and no Homo sapien until 11:45 on December 31. The entire period of man’s written history would occupy the final 60 seconds before midnight. *(Richard Carrington)***

**The necessary has never been man’s top priority. The passionate pursuit of the nonessential and the extravagant is one of the chief traits of human uniqueness. *(Eric Hoffer, philosopher)***

**Only human: DNA functions – 95 percent unknown. *(World Features Syndicate)***

**In the image of God? In the creation account, “God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, after our likeness . . .’” (Genesis 1:26). This was not said about any other mammal – or bird or sea creature. Only about man. Continue: “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them” (verse 27). No sex discrimination here. Men and women are of equal value in God’s sight – notwithstanding necessary biological role assignments in this world (see Ephesians 5:21-32). At the onset of man’s creation, God makes it absolutely clear that men and women are of great value. Humankind has the potential to rule over the earth and everything in it (verse 28). *(John Ross Schroeder, in Plain Truth magazine)***

**It is easier to accept the message of the stars than the message of the salt desert. The stars speak of man’s insignificance in the long eternity of time; the deserts speak of his insignificance right now. *(Edwin Way Teale, in Autumn Across America)***

**Man is still the most extraordinary computer of all. *(John F. Kennedy)***

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in a moment of comfort and convenience but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy. *(Martin Luther King Jr.)*

**The true measure of a man is how he treats someone who can do him absolutely no good. *(Ann Landers)***

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**The life of man, so short in itself, is still of longer duration than the judgment and the affections of his contemporaries. *(Germaine de Stael)***

**All human beings have three lives: public, private, and secret. *(Gabriel Garcia Marquez)***

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**Be humble, for you are made of earth. Be noble, for you are made of stars. *(Serbian proverb)***

**The natural role of 20th century man is anxiety. *(Norman Mailer, author)***

**The mammal with the longest lifespan is the only mammal that has to wear clothes in defense against the elements. Can you guess which mammal this is? *(L. M. Boyd)***

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**You can measure a man by the opposition it takes to discourage him. *(Robert C. Savage, in Life Lessons)***

**The true measure of a man is the height of his ideals, the breadth of his sympathy, the depth of his convictions, and the length of his patience. *(The Friday Letter)***

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Take yourself outdoors and find a place where things grow. Find one square foot of Earth. Now pay unwavering attention. One of my students found her one square foot on a misty day. Wearing rain gear, she lay down on her belly in a grassy field. At first she studied the grass. She then gave her awareness to windflowers – blue, tiny, vivid. Only then did she notice the caterpillar. A question came out of her heart. She asked the caterpillar, “Please, teach me the nature of metamorphosis.” “What makes you think I know about metamorphosis?” the caterpillar asked. “Because you go through it,” she said, wondering why she had to explain this to a caterpillar. “You will one day be a butterfly.” “There is no certainty of that,” said the caterpillar. “Most of us never make it that far. We are either eaten by predators or fail to find the right food plants. Either way, most of us die as caterpillars. You, on the other hand, as a human being, have a whole lifetime full of metamorphosis. You grow and change constantly. To find out about metamorphosis, you should study yourself.” *(James Thornton, in A Field Guide to the Soul: A Down-to-Earth Handbook of Spiritual Practice)*

**Six Mistakes of Men:**

1. **The delusion that individual advancement is made by crushing others.**
2. **The tendency to worry about things which cannot be changed or corrected.**
3. **Insisting that a thing is impossible just because you cannot do it.**
4. **Refusing to set aside trivial differences.**
5. **Neglecting to develop and refine the mind and acquire the habit of reading and study.**
6. **Attempting to compel other people to believe as you do. *(The Friday Letter)***

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**Human beings are the only creatures who are able to behave irrationally in the name of reason. *(Ashley Montagu, anthropologist)***

**Man is the only species who plants a crop he can’t eat but still has to mow every week. *(Funny Funny World)***

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**Average man has 66 pounds of muscle and three pounds of brain. What do you make of that? *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Archaeologists dated Stonehenge near the dawn of European history, offering a vision of prehistoric missionaries crossing Europe to instruct neolithic barbarians in the architecture of megaliths. But, after World War II, the new carbon-14 technique and another dating method brought startling news: Stonehenge was built about 2000 B.C., long before the Cyclopean stone walls of Mycenae, by “mere barbarians,” people without metal or writing. From this we learn not to underestimate man’s powers. Archaeologists did not see how prehistoric Britons could have moved 50-ton megaliths. *(Daniel J. Boorstin)***

**The sun, the moon and the stars would have disappeared long ago . . . had they happened to be within the reach of predatory human hands. *(Henry Havelock Ellis)***

**The real problem of humanity is the following: We have Paleolithic emotions, medieval institutions, and godlike technology. *(E. O. Wilson, biologist)***

**Man is not a rational animal; he is a rationalizing animal. *(Robert Heinlein)***

**We are made of starstuff. We are a way for the cosmos to know itself. *(Carl Sagan)***

**An astronomer once remarked to Bishop Fulton J. Sheen: “To an astronomer, man is nothing but an infinitesimal dot in an infinite universe.” “An interesting point of view,” remarked the bishop, “but you seem to forget that your infinitesimal dot of a man is still the astronomer.” *(The Wit and Wisdom of Bishop Fulton J. Sheen)***

**Few believe it’s possible to transfuse blood successfully from a chimpanzee to a human being, or vice versa, but medicos now say it can be done. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**The trouble with Man is twofold. He cannot learn truths which are too complicated; he forgets truths which are too simple. *(Rebecca West)***

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**Man -- a creature made at the end of the week’s work when God was tired. *(Mark Twain)***

**There is a familiar old maxim which assures us that Man is the noblest work of God. Who found that out? *(Mark Twain)***

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**A man whose normal weight is 150 pounds would weigh about 50 pounds if all the water in his system were dried up. *(E. C. McKenzie, in Tantalizing Facts, p. 3)***

**Mankind makes up what proportion of the earth’s living things? An estimated 0. *(Boyd’s Curiosity Shop, p. 143)***

**“Who” you are is what you are expressing right now. “Who am I?” is up to you to decide every moment of every day. “What am I?” was decided by God a long time ago. *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafolla, in The Quest, p. 55)***

**The very word “man” comes from an ancient Sanskrit word which literally means “to think.” Through thinking, man has the possibility of knowing God and expressing the wisdom of Divine Mind. *(Eric Butterworth, in Discover the Power Within You, p. 74)***

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