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WHO IS GOD? WHAT IS GOD?

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IV.

IN our attempt to answer these great questions, the investigation has led us to conclude that God is "our Father" in the sense that man is His natural "child" and legal "son." According to Scriptures quoted, man was not only created *by*, but "*after* God" (*κατά θεόν*, in reference to, or in conformity with God as a standard), also that he was not merely created, but was generated (born) by the inbreathing of the Divine life-producing breath, or spirit substance. Man thus received God's nature (image), which consisted in his spiritual personality, power of free choice, and distinct moral responsibility, accompanied with purity and innocence and the power of self-development. This "image" formed the basis of that Divine "likeness" (character) of God which it is possible for man to display, the essence of which is the free self-consciousness of a free determination—a self-determining will. Further, man did not by the fall lose the "image," his moral nature, nor his capacity of attaining unto the "likeness," Divine character, which does not consist mainly in moral innocence. His spiritual powers were weakened, the "image of God" was defiled, but a perfect "likeness of God" was still potentially his in Christ Jesus. He retained