

Questions About DNA, Image of God, Aliens, Hominids, and Holy Spirit Changing Our DNA

By Pastor Ed Anderson

What does it mean to be made in the image of God? Has human DNA ever been manipulated by non-human life forms? Did Satan try to prevent the birth of the Messiah through the manipulation of human DNA? Where did all the other "hominids" come from? Lastly, does the presence of the Holy Spirit within a human have any effects on a person's DNA?

Answer:

That's an excellent and deep series of questions — you're touching on the intersection of **theology, creation, prophecy, and even genetics**. Let's take them one at a time, biblically and thoughtfully.

1. What does it mean to be made in the image of God?

Genesis 1:26–27

“Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...’”

Being made in the **image of God** (*imago Dei*) doesn't mean we look like God physically. God is spirit (John 4:24). Instead, it means we share certain **divine attributes** in reflection—not equality:

- **Moral likeness:** The ability to discern right from wrong.
- **Spiritual nature:** We were created with a spirit capable of communion with God.
- **Rational mind:** The power to reason, choose, and create.
- **Relational love:** The capacity to give and receive love as God does.
- **Authority:** Dominion over creation as stewards (Genesis 1:28).

In essence, humans were created to **reflect God's character** and to live in relationship with Him and one another.

2. Has human DNA ever been manipulated by non-human life forms?

From a **biblical** understanding — **NO**.

There's no scriptural evidence that extraterrestrials, fallen angels, or “non-human life forms” directly **altered human DNA**.

However, this question often arises because of **Genesis 6:1–4**, where “the sons of God” take “the daughters of men” and produce “giants (Nephilim).”

Two major interpretations:

1. **The godly line of Seth and the ungodly line of Cain intermarried** — leading to moral, not genetic, corruption. This is the **mainstream Protestant view**.
2. **Some interpret “sons of God” as fallen angels** who took human wives, producing hybrid offspring.

This view is not supported by Scripture because angels are *spiritual beings* who “neither marry nor are given in marriage” (Matthew 22:30).

So while evil spirits can influence humans morally and spiritually, the Bible gives **no indication of genetic tampering**.

3. Did Satan try to prevent the birth of the Messiah through DNA manipulation?

Satan did try to **prevent or corrupt the Messianic line**, but not through science or genetics. His strategy was **moral corruption and extermination**, not molecular manipulation.

Throughout the Old Testament, Satan attempted to:

- Corrupt the human race through **violence and sin** before the Flood (Genesis 6:5).
- Endanger the **Abrahamic line** through idolatry and intermarriage.
- Destroy **Israel**, through Pharaoh (Exodus 1), Athaliah (2 Kings 11), and later Herod (Matthew 2:16).

Every attempt was to **cut off the lineage** leading to Christ — but God preserved the promise (Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14).

4. Where did all the other “hominids” come from?

From a **biblical creationist** view, only **Adam and Eve** were created in the **image of God** (Genesis 2:7).

The so-called “hominids” — such as Neanderthals or Homo erectus — are interpreted by many Bible-believing scientists as:

- **Either extinct varieties of humans** (post-Flood lineages),
- Or **misclassified species** within the broader human family,
- Or **non-human primates** that show biological similarities but no spiritual image of God.

The Bible is clear:

“And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth.” — Acts 17:26

All true humans descend from **Adam and Eve**, not from evolutionary transitions.

5. Does the Holy Spirit change or affect our DNA?

Spiritually speaking — yes, **He transforms who we are at the core**.

But biologically speaking — **no, not our DNA structure**.

When you receive the Holy Spirit:

- Your **mind, heart, and character** are renewed (Romans 12:2; Ezekiel 36:26).
- The Spirit restores the **image of God** in you that sin had damaged.
- This is a **spiritual re-creation**, not a genetic mutation.

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new creation**.” — 2 Corinthians 5:17

While your **physical DNA remains human**, your **spiritual identity** becomes divine in nature through Christ (2 Peter 1:4: “partakers of the divine nature”).

Summary

Question	Biblical Answer
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Image of God	Reflecting God’s moral, spiritual, and relational nature (Genesis 1:26–27)
DNA manipulation by non-human beings?	No biblical evidence; Satan corrupts spiritually, not genetically
Preventing Messiah by altering DNA?	Satan attacked morally and physically, but not through DNA
Origin of “hominids”?	Likely extinct human variants or misclassified species; all humans from Adam
Does the Holy Spirit affect DNA?	Spiritually transforms character and mind, not physical genes

Final Thought

Sin corrupted humanity **morally**, not genetically. Redemption restores us **spiritually**, not biologically.

The Holy Spirit’s work is not to rewrite DNA, but to **recreate the heart** — restoring within us the **image of God** that sin tried to erase.

“And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of Him that created him.”— *Colossians 3:10*