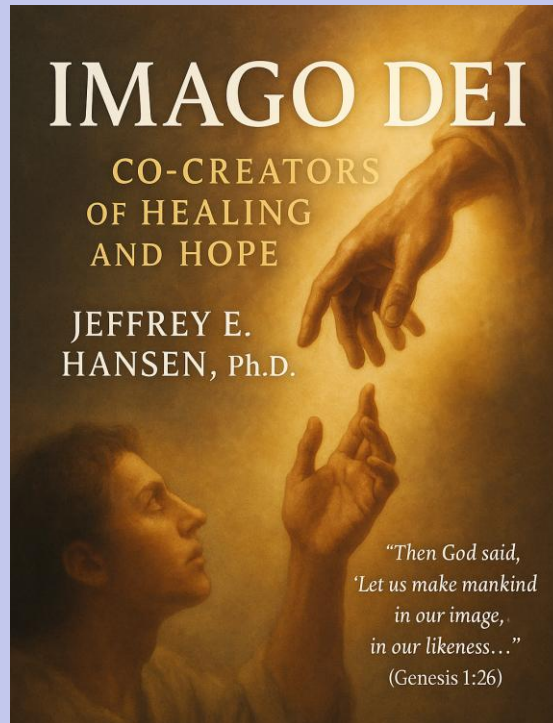


# Imago Dei: Co-Creators of Healing and Hope



***Dr. Jeffrey E. Hansen, Ph.D.***

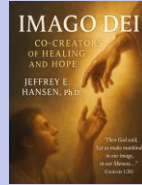
"Then God said, 'Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness...' (Genesis 1:26, NIV).

You are not an accident. You are not defined by your trauma. You are not chained by your addiction. You are the Imago Dei—the image of God—crafted in His likeness, sustained by His thought, and called into His purpose.

Thomas Aquinas, one of the greatest minds of the Church, declared that man exists as a thought in the mind of God (Summa Theologica, I, Q.93, Art.4). Imagine that. Every breath you take is sustained because the Creator thinks you, wills you, and loves you into existence. That is power. That is dignity. That is destiny.

## Imago Dei

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### Co-Creators, Not Counterfeits

Being in God's image does not mean we manifest reality on our own terms. Only God creates out of nothing. But it does mean we co-create as we align with His will. We bring His light into the darkness when we live out our callings.

The physician brings healing that reflects the Great Physician.

The psychologist restores broken minds as a mirror of the Wonderful Counselor.

The pastor shepherds souls under the Good Shepherd.

The builder, the teacher, the artist, the firefighter, the soldier—each one reveals God's creative glory through their work.

Our work becomes worship when it is done in His Spirit. As Paul said, 'For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do' (Ephesians 2:10, NIV).

### Trauma, Addiction, and the Battle for the Image

Let's be real. Trauma distorts the image. Addiction chains it down. Shame buries it in lies. But the truth never changes: the image is still there. It cannot be erased. It can only be hidden.

This is why NeuroFaith® exists. In our Moral Faith books and our clinical work at Holdfast Recovery and AnchorPoint, we show how trauma, addiction, and brokenness attack the image of God, but Christ restores it. Neuroscience proves what Scripture has always proclaimed: we can rewire, reshape, and renew.

Paul declared, 'Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind' (Romans 12:2, NIV). Neuroscience calls it neuroplasticity. Scripture calls it transformation. Either way, God gave us both the science and the Spirit to walk into freedom.

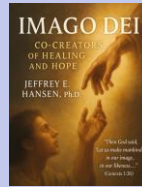
### Manifesting Health in His Image

At our centers, we see it every day. Men broken by trauma walk in hopeless. Addiction has stripped them down to nothing. But as they encounter God's truth, as they heal in safe connection, as they rediscover their worth, the Imago Dei shines again.

That is manifestation. Not the self-help nonsense that says you can demand a new car by thinking hard enough. No. The true manifestation is when the image of God radiates through a human soul set free by His Spirit, when trauma loosens its grip, when addiction

## **Imago Dei**

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loses its hold, and when healing flows into relationships, families, and futures.

‘Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here’ (2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV).

### **The Call**

This is your sacred invitation. You are not just surviving. You are co-creating. You are manifesting God’s kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Whether you are in medicine, psychology, teaching, business, writing, firefighting, or parenting, your work is holy ground.

The NeuroFaith® model is more than treatment. It is a proclamation that neuroscience and faith together testify to the truth of Imago Dei. Trauma does not get the last word. Addiction does not get the last word. Christ does. And His word is freedom. His word is restoration. His word is hope.

So step into it. Manifest health. Manifest life. Manifest the image of God in you. The world is waiting.

### **References (APA 7th ed.)**

Aquinas, T. (1947). *Summa Theologica* (Fathers of the English Dominican Province, Trans.). Christian Classics. (Original work published ca. 1274)