Theme: As the image of God, mankind is called to form and fill the world, thus developing creation to display God's glory.

I.   Introduction – The Unique Place of Man

A. Mankind is uniquely spiritual-physical

1. Universe is a spiritual-physical creation (Col 1:16)

2. Man is spiritual-physical being (Gen 2:7)

B. Mankind alone is the image of God

1. Man created in God's image (Gen 1:26-27)

2. Man like God and represents God

II.   God's Call for Mankind

A. Mankind alone is called to rule creation

1. God planned for man to rule creation (Gen 1:26)

2. God commands man to rule creation (Gen 1:28)

3. Ruling creation is man's glory (Psalm 8)

4. Mankind is God's vice-regent over creation

B. The aspects of mankind's rule over creation

1. Rule (רדה) and subdue (כׄבשׁ) – 1:26,28

a. Rule can be used harshly, neutrally, or gently

b. Subdue – overcoming; put in subjection

c. Rule gently but firmly; note of opposition (Satan?)

2. Work (עׄבַד) and care for (שׁׄמר) - 2:15

a. Work – till; serve; priestly service

b. Care for – guard/protect; keep commands

c. Ross quote

3. Name the animals – 2:19

a. Naming implies authority over the animals

b. Quote for *Dictionary of Biblical Imagery*

c. Dylan – Man Gave Names to All the Animals

III.   Mankind: Forming & Filling the Universe

A. God formed and filled the universe

1. Chart from Genesis 1

2. God formed and filled; last act was man

B. God calls man to continue work of forming & filling

   1. Fill the world (1:28); after the flood (Gen 9:1,7)

   2. Form the creation (1:26-28; 2:8, 15)

   3. Note problem in Genesis 2:4-5 – unproductive

   4. The problem: no rain, no man – Gen 2:4-5

   5. God's solution – create man – Gen 2:5, 7

C. Mankind: Forming the Creation Under God

   1. This is God's intent for His image – His work

   2. We are to unlock, form, and lead creation

IV. Applying the Word

A. Do you see our call to fill, rule, and form this world?

   1. This is God's first call to us as humans

   2. Humans are integrally related to this earth

   3. Christians are still human!

B. Do you see the firm foundation this gives for education?

   1. Science, math, literature, phys ed work with creation

2. We don't create – we discover

C. Do you see that work is important to God?

   1. Work existed prior to the fall!

   2. Your work is important to God – vocation

D. Do you see this fulfilled in Christ?

   1. Christ is the 2nd Adam (Rom 5; 1 Cor 15)

   2. Christ – Creator, Reconciler, Ruler (Col 1:15-20)

   3. Come to His Table! – the Lord's Supper

God's Call for Mankind

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:4-7; 2:15

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Communion

Hebrews 13:20-21

16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. Colossians 1:16

5 You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. 6 You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: 7 all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field, 8 the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. Psalm 8:5-8

These two verbs are used throughout the Pentateuch for spiritual service. "Keep" is used for keeping the commandments and taking heed to obey God's word; "serve" describes the worship and service of the Lord, the highest privilege a person can have. Whatever activity the man was to engage in in the garden… it was described in terms of spiritual service to the Lord. (Ross, 124)

Adam's commission to "name" engages him in what we have come to call science but what the ancients knew as wisdom. To know is to name; to name is to know and express the essential nature of someone or something. *Dictionary of Biblical Imagery*

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. 19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Colossians 1:15-20

Forming the Formless "The Resource"		Filling the Empty "The Utilizer"	
Day One	Light	Day Four	Lights
Day Two	Firmament Sky Seas	Day Five	Inhabitants Birds Fish
Day Three	Dry land Vegetation	Day Six	Land animals Human beings

1 Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth…. 7 As for you, be fruitful and increase in number; multiply on the earth and increase upon it." Gen 9:1, 7

Man gave names to all the animals
In the beginning, in the beginning.
Man gave names to all the animals
In the beginning, long time ago.

He saw an animal that liked to growl,
Big furry paws and he liked to howl,
Great big furry back and furry hair.
"Ah, think I'll call it a bear."

Man gave names to all the animals
In the beginning, in the beginning.
Man gave names to all the animals
In the beginning, long time ago.

He saw an animal up on a hill
Chewing up so much grass until she was filled.
He saw milk comin' out but he didn't know how.
"Ah, think I'll call it a cow."

Man gave names to all the animals
In the beginning, in the beginning.
Man gave names to all the animals
In the beginning, long time ago.

He saw an animal that liked to snort,
Horns on his head and they weren't too short.
It looked like there wasn't nothin' that he couldn't pull.
"Ah, think I'll call it a bull."
Man gave names to all the animals
In the beginning, in the beginning.
Man gave names to all the animals
In the beginning, long time ago.

He saw an animal leavin' a muddy trail,
Real dirty face and a curly tail.
He wasn't too small and he wasn't too big.
"Ah, think I'll call it a pig."

Man gave names to all the animals
In the beginning, in the beginning.
Man gave names to all the animals
In the beginning, long time ago.

Next animal that he did meet
Had wool on his back and hooves on his feet,
Eating grass on a mountainside so steep.
"Ah, think I'll call it a sheep."

Man gave names to all the animals
In the beginning, in the beginning.
Man gave names to all the animals
In the beginning, long time ago.

He saw an animal as smooth as glass
Slithering his way through the grass.
Saw him disappear by a tree near a lake . . .