

**GOD 5.** Humans have created God in their own image.

The first God in most people's life is their father - we pity those who were deprived of a positive father-figure in their formative years. Later on we often see men of influence as some sort of god-figures, the people we admire: Philosophers, writers, revolutionaries, prophets, leaders, teachers, artists, film and sports stars and other celebrities.

**F**rom there it was a small step to create God in their image:

A great, admirable, authoritative, out-of-reach father-figure.

*Psychoanalyst S. Freud (1856 - 1939):  
"It would be nice if God existed - all  
caring and promising life after death.  
But since that's exactly what we crave,  
it is obvious we have created him."*

*The article 'Born believers - how  
your brain creates God' (New  
Scientist, 7 February 2009) states:  
"Religion is an artefact of the wir-  
ing in our brain - it is a conse-  
quence of how our brains work.*

*"The mind has an overdeveloped  
sense of cause and effect, which  
primes us to see purpose and  
design everywhere; and people  
expect their God's mind to work  
very much like their own mind."*

*If birds had a God, he'd be feathered.*