

# Image and Likeness of God

*in Human Interactions*

Dr. Goodluck Ofoegbu  
Banking Blessings Ministry  
San Antonio, Texas  
USA

# God's Representative

- God created people for a purpose [Genesis 1:26]
  - Govern the earth and inhabitants
  - Govern in God's image and likeness
- Represent Him in relationships
  - Among people
  - Between people and other living things
  - Between people and non-living things



# Study Focus

- Meaning of “image of God”
- Implications for human interactions

# Image of God

- Image of God could not be defined exhaustively
- Use examples to explore meaning
- I know that this man who often comes our way is a holy man of God  
[Shunammite woman about Elisha, 2 Kings 4:9]

# Image of God

- His master saw that the Lord was with him and gave him success in everything he did [Joseph, Genesis 39:3]
  - He did things that mattered to people
  - He persevered until he was successful
  - People felt the hand of God in his actions
  - Potiphar met with success through Joseph and placed him in charge of almost everything

## Image of God cont'd

- I have seen a son of Jesse of Bethlehem ...  
And the Lord is with him  
[Saul's servant to Saul about David,  
1 Samuel 16:18]

## Image of God cont'd

- Saul, his officers, and people of Israel also testified to David's character  
[1 Samuel 18:5, 14–16, 30]
  - Saul's officers and other people were pleased that Saul promoted David rapidly
  - Saul was afraid of David because he believed the Lord gave him success in everything
  - David's leadership impressed Israel and Judah
  - People believed the Lord was with him

## Image of God cont'd

- A man known as the local Good Samaritan
  - Joseph Scriven [Port Hope, Ontario, Canada]
  - Helped the poor and under-privileged
  - Shared his food with the needy and often gave them clothing
  - Author of “What a friend we have in Jesus” [[www.SermonAudio.com](http://www.SermonAudio.com)]

# Image of God cont'd

- Galatians 5:22–23
- Image of God
  - Love, joy, peace
  - Patience, kindness, goodness
  - Faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control
- Describes how people feel about you when you interact with them or they observe your interactions with other people

# Image of God cont'd

- How people feel about your attitude
  - Attentive with an intent to understand other people's feelings and needs
  - You are truthful and your statements are based on your best understanding
  - You don't suddenly explode into anger
  - People don't have to be perfect with you; you will reasonably grant them another chance

## Image of God cont'd

- In Matthew 25:35–36, Christ associates the image of God with compassion
- A person recognizes a need and provides for it without expectation of profit or reward
- You convey the image of God if people feel the hand of God in your actions

# In God's Image Therefore, with God's Authority

- Actions that convey God's image are authorized by God
- Actions that don't convey his image are not authorized
- Evaluate your planned action to determine if it will convey the image of God

# In God's Image and Authority

- David provides an example before his battle with Goliath [1 Samuel 17:45–47]
  - I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied
  - Today ... the whole world will know
    - There is a God in Israel
    - It is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves
  - For the battle is the Lord's

# Ask in God's Image And He will Give it to You

- You may ask for anything in my name and I will do it [John 14:14]
- Asking in His name means with a purpose to convey the image of God
- Convince yourself that your prayer purpose will convey the image of God

# Ask in God's Image And He will Give it to You

- Elijah staged a demonstration at Mount Carmel to convey to the Israelites
  - There is only one God
  - He grants prayers of His people when they follow His words
  - [1 Kings 18:36]

# Concluding Remarks

- God created people to represent Him in all interactions
- Actions that convey His image are authorized
- Actions that do not convey His image are not authorized
- He will grant a prayer if the purpose will convey His image to the affected