Discovering God's Image (Rom 1:20)

We can find the LIGHT of the image of God mentioned in Matt 4:14-16 and in Matt 5:14-16. The Image of God is mentioned in Col 3:9-10 and is described as moral contrasts in the Beatitudes, John 1-12, Colossians 3, Deuteronomy 6-30. There are seven pillars of His image in Wisdom's House mentioned in Proverbs 9:1, Genesis 1-2, and in Romans 1:20.

In Matt 5:14-16, we are told not to hide the LIGHT of the Image of God, instead we are to place this LIGHT in a prominent place for all to see.

See these links for more information about the moral contrasts of the image of God in the Bible:

https://wisdoms-house.com/Finding the Image of God.pdf

https://wisdoms-house.com/?p=1655

Bearing Witness of His Light

As His children, we are not the LIGHT (Matt 4:14-16), we are here to bear witness of His LIGHT (John 1:7-9). Our efforts below are driven by moral imperatives from the Name and Image of God to be impartial like He is (Matt 5:9, 43-48, Psalm 82, John 4-6, Col 3:25b, Jas 2:9,).

We are given a mandate to invest His resources (Exod 35:4-19) and our talents (Matt 25:13-30, 1Cor 3:9-17, Exod 35:35, 36:1-4) into His kingdom for His glory (Luke 10:35-37, Luke 16:8-13, Deut 24:19-21).

Guidelines for Collaborative Work

The Lord Jesus gives us a spiritual foundation for collaborative work by loving mercy and doing justly (Micah 6:8) under the heading of "do not steal, instead be diligent". We learn that there are ten guidelines provided by the Lord Jesus in Matt 5:9, Psalm 82, John 4-6, Deut 23-25, Col 3:25b, Jas 2:9, Eph 4:28.

Collaboration Guidelines	Scripture References
1. Workers are to be like-minded participants to work together	1 Cor 6:14, Amos 3:3, 2 Cor 6:17, Deut 22:10
2. We are stewards, not owners, of the projects God has entrusted us to manage.	Deut 23:15-16, Eph 6:9, Matt 5:33-37, James 4:13-16, Luke 22:25-26, 1 Cor 3-4, Matt 24:45-51, Matt 21:33-46, 1Cor 4:7, John 3:27, 30
3. Leaders are not to be novices.	Deut 23:17-18, Exodus 18:17-23, Matt 5:19-20, 2Tim2:1-7, 1Tim 3:6, Luke 16:10- 11
4. We are to perform what we agreed to do.	Deut 23:21-23, Ecc 5:1-7, Matt 5:33-37
5. Freeloading is discouraged.	Deut 23:24-25, Jn 6:26-27
6. Loans require mutual risk and responsibility.	Deut 24:10-15, Prov 22:7
7. Everyone must be compensated in accordance with the work that they have performed	Deut 25:4, 1Cor 9:9, Ps 82
8. The same work standard and work opportunities should be applied for all participants	Deut 25:13-16, Lev 24:22, Ps 82, Col 3:25b, Jas 2 :9, Matt 5:43-48
9. Those orchestrating the services of labor should pay for them	Deut 24:14-15, James 5:4-6
10. We are to show mercy to the destitute by apportioning from our increase	Deut 24:19-21, Matt 25:40, Luke 10:35-37, Luke 16:8-13, Micah 6:8, Matt 25:13-30, Exodus 35:4-19

To see these steps or milestones in collaborative labor in action, check if Nehemiah followed these guidelines. Notice how all wall builders worked for the common cause to rebuild with a trowel in one hand and a spear in the other hand (Neh 4:15-17)

Origins of Guidelines of Collaborative Work

In general, where do the guidelines of collaboration come from?

The principles of collaboration come from two commandments:

the third commandment (Deut 8-9), and the eighth commandment (Deut 23-25).

The third commandment is the root of the eighth commandment:

If we take possession of that which belongs to the Lord, we are stealing and we take His name in vain. Proverbs 30:8-9, Matt 5:33-37, Jas 4:13-16

Keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread.
Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, 'Who is the Lord?'
Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God. (Prov 30:8-9, NIV)

The Roots and Fruits of the Ten Commandments in Matt 5-7 teach us that Jesus is the Vine (John 15:4-5)

Where can you find more information about these claims?

The Separation of Church Mistake - Wisdoms House

The Separation of Church Mistake - Wisdoms House

We live in culture where our spiritual existence is conveniently separated from our workplace and school settings. We go to church on one day where spiritual values are taught, and then we go to our workplace for six days where we isolate our "religi

The eighth commandment is described in Matt 5:9, John 4-6, Deuteronomy 23-25.

Diligence vs. Dereliction is contrasted as light vs darkness in these passages.: ... under the heading of "do not steal".

The following link describes The Roots and Fruits of the Ten Commandments in Matt 5-7 and in the Book of James:

https://wisdoms-house.com/The Gold Standard for Christian Education.pdf

Where do the Five P's of Progress come from?

The Tabernacle explains how the <u>Five P's of Progress</u> are to be used as a meeting place with God to allow the Roots of our faith to blossom into the Fruits of our faith in the Holy Place:

The Seven branches of the candelabra is the LIGHT of the image of God. John 14:21-23

The Table of shewbread is God's Provisions (John 15)

The Altar of Incense (Prayer in the Spirit) is John 16,17

A Tent of Meeting in St. John - Wisdoms House

A Tent of Meeting in St. John - Wisdoms House

The following link compares the pattern of the tabernacle that is mentioned in Acts 7:44-50 to the hidden tabernacle in St. John 12-17. "Our

fathers had the tent of witness in the wilderness, just as he who spoke to Moses directed him to make it, acc

The Lord's blueprint for our work was laid out a long time ago.

This juncture is a good place for the Introduction to Wisdom's House.

Wisdom's Invitation - Wisdoms House

Wisdom's Invitation - Wisdoms House

This blog is about God's wisdom, the pursuit of it, where to find it, and how it applies to our daily lives. Join us at the banquet table beside the seven pillars of Wisdom's House.

We are not the LIGHT, but we came to bear witness of the LIGHT John 1:7-8, Matt 4:14-16, Matt 5:14-16, Luke 6;46-49

John 1:6-8 NIV

[6] There was a man sent from God whose name was John. [7] He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. [8] He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light

https://bible.com/bible/111/jhn.1.6-8.NIV

The NAME and Image of the Lord

Man was made in the Image of God in Genesis 3:27. Acts 17:26 NIV points to our common ancestry in Genesis.

"From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. "

https://bible.com/bible/111/act.17.26.NIV

Romans 1:20 says that the attributes of God are seen by the physical world He created.

"For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—<u>have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made</u>, so that people are without excuse. (Rom 1:20)

This article describes how our reason is intimately dependent upon our faith. It also describes how Impartiality is intimately connected with the Image of God: Deut 25:13-16, Colossians 3:25, Jas 2:9, Eph 6:9

In the following blog post, we see, from the definition a weight standard (Deut 25:13-16), the Kilogram is a picture of impartiality and reasoning that are dependent upon faith:

https://wisdoms-house.com/?p=1009

Secular Humanism says that faith and reason are mutually exclusive.

I am sharing how I use the Scriptures to address age-old traditions of Secular Humanism in the past and present.

The first copy of Wisdom's House textbook was purchased by a Christian university.

The professors of Math and Computer Science struggled with relating Math to the Bible.

These articles address this so-called age of "Post Modernism" that is related to the Scientific Revolution.

https://wisdoms-house.com/?p=117

https://wisdoms-house.com/?p=135

Wisdoms-house.com started as a book back in 2008.

The teaching tools like the Children's Chart describing the Image of God , Matt 4:14-16, date back to 1991.

Since then, the seven-headed beast has been manifested and overcome by the Blood of the Lamb, and by the Word of God, Rev 12:11

Ownership vs. Stewardship

Deut 23:15-16 is related to Prov 30:8-9, Matt 5:33-37. The presumption of ownership of a hired servant , instead of regarding our duty as stewards, disregards God's authority.

Ephesians 6:9 says the following:

"And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him." (Eph 6:9, NIV) <u>https://bible.com/bible/111/eph.6.9.NIV</u>

Taking possession of God's domain (Matt 5:33-37) disrespects His reputation or NAME. Deut 23:15 says don't comply with others who disrespect God's Name.

Deut 23:16 and Eph 6:9 say we should not disrespect God's reputation either by oppressing others.

Luke 22:25-26 warns us of exercising Lordship over others, instead we are to be servants of those under our care.

Intelligent Design vs. Creation Ordinances

BTW, <u>Intelligent Design movement</u> typically uses physical observations while vacating the Scriptures. This is a mistake. Isa 55:8-11, the Parable of the Sower in Matt 13, John 14:21-23, and Acts 17:11 show the word of God as the active catalyst.

Sectarianism and Secularism

Sectarianism (1Cor 3:1-4) and Secular Humanism want to strip off the mission of Jesus and assign an individual's name to the actions.

Disciples don't take credit for work that is a gift from Him and for Him. It is our pride that over takes us. <u>This is the Warfare against the seven-headed beast</u>. See1 Cor 4:7, John 3:19-21, John 1:19-28, Matt 5:33-37, John 3:27,33

The rationale for assistance to MUST is anchored in Luke 10:35-37, Luke 16:8-13.

If we substitute an individual's name as a replacement for the LIGHT in both 4:14-16 and Matt 5:14-16, we have lost this battle (John 1:8-9,19-20).

In light of this explanation, peacemaking by doing justly and loving mercy (Matt 5:9, Micah 6:8) describes our intent in sharing "Coding CANVAS" in Malawi.

https://laserpositioningsystem.com/Introduction to Coding CANVAS.pdf

We must show due diligence in being fair, just, and equitable in protecting the fatherless, the poor, the hopeless.

This is the image of God in the Good Samaritan Luke 10:35-37.

Can you see the LIGHT of God being contrasted with worldly standards here?

Did you know that the mention of peacemakers in the Beatitudes is a reference to Psalm 82:1-8 and Luke 10:35?

https://wisdoms-house.com/?p=1009

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. (Mat 5:9)

Judges make peace between quarreling parties. The text of Psalm 82 is provided below. Notice that the "...sons of the most High..." is a reference to Psalm 82

" Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."

They have neither knowledge nor understanding...

The "Lab before Lecture" approach to teaching has the same objective

https://laserpositioningsystem.com/#lab-before-lecture

How to address Secular Humanism using the Creation Ordinances (Rom 1:20)

Paul's example at Aeropogus in Acts 17:22-34, the example of Jesus in John's Gospel Chapters 1-12 are worthwhile examples.

Both Paul and Jesus spent time addressing facts that revisionist historians overlooked or misinterpreted.

In both instances, Jesus and Paul start with the familiar to build a bridge to the unfamiliar.

MUST is built upon the study of physical laws. Science and Technology has its roots here.

<u>John's Gospel 1-12</u> compares the physical laws of the first seven days to the image of God , Romans 1:20.

In Aereopogus, the culture recognized that a God existed. He was unknown though. Paul spent time making Him familiar by looking at history of Athens and their museum artifacts.

At MUST, we need to look no further than <u>MUST web pages</u> to get current and past beliefs. We compare the gifts of the physical creation to the CREATOR of the physical world in the article <u>Are the Gifts Greater than the Giver?</u>

In one example, we compare the photo-synthesis of plants to man-made energy of photovoltaic solar cells.

In America, our entire nation was founded on the ideas of the phrase <u>"Laws of Nature and Nature's God"</u>

This is reference to Genesis 1-2, John's Gospel 1-12 and to Rom 1:20

All of our early Universities were founded as Christian Institutions. Yale University is one of our oldest ones.

The Redemption Road of Tentmaking

Our directives from Luke16:8-13, and Luke 10:35-37 should be the guiding light of our proposal discussion.

These verses started the exchange with professor Alfred Maluwa

at MUST.

The tentmaking ministry allows the transfer of life skills to fathers and sons from one generation to the other.

We fathers have an assignment to carry out this mission in Deuteronomy 6:20-25 and in Ephesians 6:4.

WE MUST NOT NEGLECT THIS ASSIGNMENT.

Use is blog article to introduce the topic to others.

https://wisdoms-house.com/?p=2092

Just in case it is not clear, the peacemakers defined in Matt 5:9, John 4-6, Deuteronomy 23-25 is the topic of discussion.

The existing MUST education strategy of siloed skills appears to be based upon an industrialized society cultivating employees for the marketplace

The more relevant education strategy should be a developing society cultivating entrepreneurs.

Entrepreneurs have more vision and responsibility than employees.

The Five P's of Progress teach entrepreneurship.

- 1. Business purpose
- 2. Business acumen
- 3. Technical skills
- 4. Customer Service
- 5. Process Improvement

Business acumen, also known as business sense, is the combination of skills, knowledge, experience, and abilities that allow someone to understand a business's operations, functions, and external environment.

The Beacon Engineering Consortium is built on Five P's of Progress:

https://laserpositioningsystem.com/Beacon Engineering Consortium Guidelines.pdf

Cultivating entrepreneurs rather than employees is the vision that is explicitly stated.

Thomas Edison is a well-known American inventor and businessman.

He said success is 10% inspiration and 90% perspiration.

There is a wilderness of labor that necessary to get anywhere in this life.

Anyone who thinks there is an easy road without hardship is grossly mistaken.

2 Tim 2:1-7 poetically describes the mission as a soldier, a farmer, and an athlete to give us a lesson in faithfulness for generations to come:

https://wisdoms-house.com/?p=993

Each one of these occupation examples requires vision, faith, discipline, dedication, sacrifice, practice, perseverance, and reflection.

Efforts to separate the work needed in these occupations into secular and sacred tasks will fail miserably.

THE FARMER

The parable of the sower in Matt 13 describes physical and spiritual labor of a farmer eloquently. See the following link for more details about the parable of the sower.

https://wisdoms-house.com/?p=66

THE SOLDIER

The journey through the wilderness in 1 Cor 10:1-13 describes the faithfulness of a soldier in overwhelming detail. See the following link about the warfare against seven-nations in the Pentateuch.

https://wisdoms-house.com/?p=386

THE ATHLETE

What about the athlete? Isn't there an easy road to success as an athlete?

Can't you sit as a spectator and expect results?

To the contrary, Paul describes how he disciplines his body, through sacrifice, to attain a prize.

Can you find that scriptural passage?

Can you find the reference in Hebrews where Paul compares our mission to a foot race?

Are these occupational examples of the farmer, the soldier and the athlete secular or sacred?

OTHER OCCUPATIONS?

What about other occupations?

See Luke 16:8-13 and the following article about the Pentateuch:

https://wisdoms-house.com/?p=114

In 1954, the Engineer's Creed on page 10 of <u>the Beacon Engineering Consortium Guidelines</u> recognized that it will take the image of God to place our neighbor's welfare above profits. This is the command to love your neighbor as yourself. (Matt 22:37-40, Lev 19:17-18)

"As a Professional Engineer I dedicate my professional knowledge and skill to the advancement and betterment of human welfare. I pledge: To give the utmost of performance; To participate in none but honest enterprise; To live and work according to the laws of man and the highest standards of professional conduct; **To place service before profit, the honor and standing of the profession before personal advantage, and the public welfare above all other considerations. In humility and with need for Divine Guidance, I make this pledge**"

It is our responsibility to teach this truth from generation to generation: Deut 6:20-25, Eph 6:4

1 Corinthians 2:14-15 NIV

[14] The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit. [15] The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments, (1Cor 2:14-15, NIV)

Robert's Rules of Order (Majority Opinion) vs. the Tent of Meeting

In both secular and Christian Institutions alike, governance from the legal bylaws documents is based upon **Roberts Rules of Order.** This leads to the elevation of the opinions of men over the word of God. Mark 7:8-13, provides some clarity. (See John 14:21-23 also)

"[8] You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions." [9] And he continued, "You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions! [10] For Moses said, 'Honor your father and mother,' and, 'Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.' [11] But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is Corban (that is, devoted to God)— [12] then you no longer let them do anything for their father or mother. [13] Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that." Mark 7:8-13 NIV

https://bible.com/bible/111/mrk.7.8-13.NIV

This blog article with a video discusses the **deception of Robert's Rules of Order** and the insidious nature of the seven-headed beast.

https://wisdoms-house.com/?p=154

What is the exact meaning of insidious?

- 1. stealthy, subtle, cunning, or treacherous.
- 2. working in a subtle or apparently innocuous way, but nevertheless deadly

By starting with the **Light of image of God in <u>the Tent of Meeting</u>**, we steer clear of traditions and deceptions.

There were twelve spies. Only two, survived the wilderness.

There were twelve tribes of Isreal. Only Judah and Benjamin remained in the Southern Kingdom. The other ten departed with Jeroboam to the Northern kingdom.

This poem warns us about following the majority opinion. It was written for my children in 1993.

12 SPIES

The Lord called for a leader from every tribe.

He told them to go to Canaan as spies.

They surveyed the land for forty days,

and returned with proof that left all amazed.

God's plan for them was promise and hope

but, the odds of succeeding, to them, were a joke.

God's faithful words brought only defiance,

because Israel was afraid to fight against giants.

Ten men were deceived by sight of their eyes.

Two men saw through the kingdom of lies.

If you are part of the ten,

then you fear men.

If you are part of the two,

then, God is with you.

The majority opinion is not always right.

Follow the Lord. He is your Light.

This is a link presents two other poems that describe our spiritual battles when we lack the light of the image of God.

http://wisdoms-house.com/G&T/V&V/SevenNationsHTML/HTMLFiles/Seven Nat.html

America started with the Light of the Image of God that is described in the phrase "Laws of Nature and Nature's God" in our Declaration of Independence.

The approach is not new.

https://wisdoms-house.com/?p=1655

BTW, the fruit from land of the giants is found in these links

https://laserpositioningsystem.com

https://solar-solns.com

... They surveyed the land for forty days.

And returned with proof that left all amazed...

Summary of Purpose and Mission

In these dark days ahead, we need to let His Light shine (John 1:6-8, Matt 4:14-16, Matt 5:14-16)