Desire for Praise (1 Corinthians 4:5)

Tony Mauck · Proverbs 27:2

INTRODUCTION

- Biblical proverbs are designed to do the same. They're about living life wisely.
- Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth.

1 Let Another Praise You, Not Your Own Mouth

Proverbs 27:2; Acts 20:35

- Let another praise you and not your own mouth. A stranger and not your own lips.
- And I would suggest that even praise that comes from others should be kept in the proper perspective.
- There are people who are addicted to praise.
- Understanding Jesus' words, it is more blessed to give than to receive.

2 Let Everything That Has Breath Praise the Lord

Psalm 150:6; Psalm 138

- The proper focus is given to us clearly in the Bible. The last Psalm tells us in Psalm 150, let everything that has breath praise the Lord.
- I will give thanks to you with all my heart. I will sing praises to you before the gods.
- The Lord will accomplish what concerns me. I like that.
- The cure for all of that is to focus outside of ourselves to God and his will for us.

3 He Reigns

Matthew 5:48

- A truth that I believe is true right now, at this moment. God reigns in heaven. That does not change.
- Souls lost in praise don't have time to be overly focused and overly consumed and over exalting of self.
- God is awesome, God is sovereign, God is powerful, I am finite, I am flawed, I am dependent.
- The standard is not men. And what they achieve and what they do, the standard is always God.

4 He Exalts

Colossians 3:23; 1 Peter 1:18–19

- He who exalts himself shall be humble. He who humbles himself shall be exalted.
- Man's praise, man's praise is completely optional and unnecessary.
- Whatever you do your work heartily as for the Lord rather than for men.
- You were redeemed by the precious blood of a lamb. Without spot and without blemish.

5 He Remembers

Hebrews 6:10

- He is not unjust. To forget our work and labor of love, which we have shown in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints.
- God's ledger is the one that matters. And he doesn't forget a thing.
- If you serve for him and do your work heartily for the Lord, as we saw in Colossians chapter 3 and verse 23, the assessments of others really don't amount to a whole lot.

6 The One Who Examines Me Is the Lord

1 Timothy 1:15; Proverbs 22:1

- The right way to look at us is we're servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.
- But to me, it is a very small thing that I should be examined by you.
- Yet I'm not acquitted by this, he says, but the one who examines me is the Lord. That's who you need to be concerned about.
- Therefore, do not go on passing judgment before the time.
- And then each man's praise will come to him from God.

THE CHALLENGE

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

MY NOTES