They Have Their Reward In Full

Tony Mauck · Matthew 6:1–18

INTRODUCTION

- Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to be noticed by them. Otherwise, you have no reward with your Father who is in heaven.
- Any offering given to God or done for God is not necessarily acceptable because it's given to him.
- In the King James Version of these passages that I've read, the word reward appears seven times.

1 Religious Performance to Be Seen and Noticed by Men

Matthew 6:2; Matthew 6:5; Matthew 6:16

- It's not just what we do, but why we do what we do that also matters to God.
- We are doing something that's supposed to be a result of our faith in God and our devotion to him, and we're using that to promote ourselves rather than him.
- You were noticed by men. But I want to tell you, that's your reward, and that's the total of it, because you're getting nothing from God.
- Self has been praised, but God is not honored, and God is not pleased.

2 The Pursuit of Hedonism and Materialism

Ecclesiastes 2:10

- And all that my eyes desired, I did not refuse them. I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure.
- And this was my reward for all my labor.
- When you spend it, what do you got? Well, what you did is what you got.
- They have discovered that things don't make you happy.

3 A Service to God Which Completely Disregards Self

Galatians 6:3; Romans 12:3; Isaiah 66:2–3

- What Jesus commends is a service to God which completely disregards self.
- It's about you and God. And the biggest moments in the expression of your faith are going to be in a closet.
- The greater problems that churches deal with most often have to do with people who have left a proper view of self.
- You are only something because of him, and so you must not get carried away with yourself.
- Humble ourselves. He will exalt us. Let's look for our exaltation from him and not from others.

4 Man Will Not Always Judge Accurately

Matthew 23

- Men do not always judge things correctly. God always does.
- You need to be foremost concerned about what God sees and how God assesses things.
- There's a fine line between being a good example and desiring and craving recognition.

5 If We Perform Greatly, Think Nothing of Ourselves

1 Corinthians 1:30

- If any man boasts, let him boast in the Lord. It is by his doing.
- It is by his doing that you are in Christ.
- Whatever we are able to accomplish, if you perform greatly, think nothing of yourself. It's only what we should have done.

6 The Savior Is Eager to Reward Lowly Service

- The Savior noticed this and is eager to reward lowly service.
- Our involvement in the local church gives us an opportunity to minister to others. To be servants just as Jesus was a servant.
- Who am I serving? To be more like our master. And the master will reward that.

THE CHALLENGE

Where are you investing? Who are you trying to please? Can you say as you leave this place and start your day tomorrow? My goal is to please the Lord. To be his servant, to acknowledge him in prayer when nobody else is around.

MY NOTES