

Sermon Notes 03.27.2022

Jesus & The Father

John 8:29 "And He who sent Me is with Me; He has not left Me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to Him."

Choosing to Please the Father in Secret Rather than to Receive Praise from People

Matthew 6:17-18 "But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face **18** so that your fasting will not be noticed by men, but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you.

Matthew 5:43-48 "You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.' **44** "But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, **45** so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on *the* evil and *the* good, and sends rain on *the* righteous and *the* unrighteous. **46** "For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? **47** "If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? **48** "Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Colossians 3:23-24 Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, **24** knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.

1 Thessalonians 2:6 nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, even though as apostles of Christ we might have asserted our authority.

2 Corinthians 10:18 For it is not he who commends himself that is approved, but he whom the Lord commends.

The Lord Examines Us

1 Corinthians 4:3-4 But to me it is a very small thing that I may be examined by you, or by *any* human court; in fact, I do not even examine myself. **4** For I am conscious of nothing against myself, yet I am not by this acquitted; but the one who examines me is the Lord.

Romans 14:4 Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

The Lord Will not Forsake or Forget

Psalms 37:27-28 Depart from evil and do good, So you will abide forever. **28** For the LORD loves justice And does not forsake His godly ones; They are preserved forever. But the descendants of the wicked will be cut off.

Hebrews 6:9-10 But, beloved, we are convinced of better things concerning you, and things that accompany salvation, though we are speaking in this way. **10** For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints.

Faced with Hard Choices & Challenging Circumstances – Choose to Please the Father

1 John 2:15-17 Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16** For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. **17** The world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.

Matthew 6:24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

- The Love of the Father Defeats the Seed of Sin – The Love of the World

What Draws Us into the Love of the Father

- The Simple but Powerful Decision to Love God with All We Have
- Desire to Please Him because I love the Father who First Loved Me
- The Powerful Awareness that the Father Sees What I do in Secret
- Believing that He will Reward Me - His Approval is My Greatest Treasure
- A Heart that has No Appetite for the Praises this World Offers
- A Deep Certainty that the Father Calls Me One of His Children

1 John 3:1 See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and *such* we are...