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Well Done...

1 Thessalonians 4:1

Finally, brothers, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more.

Everyone likes to be complimented. It’s just in our DNA to want to hear flattering words about ourselves. Be it from a parent, friend, co-worker and especially a boss.

Accolades just have a way of putting that extra spring in your step. They help that thing we call “confidence” in ways that we can only imagine, till we experience it that is.

But they can come from sources that are totally unexpected. It was just the other day when I was putting my children to bed that my youngest one looked up at me and said “You’re the best Da Da ever.” I wouldn’t trade that moment for anything. If you’re a parent, you know exactly what I mean.

As I walked back to my laptop, I wondered what the greatest compliment one could ever receive truly was. There was no doubt in my mind as to what it is.

Matthew 25:20-21

The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.’ ‘His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

“Well done, good and faithful servant”

Is it your desire to hear this from the maker of the universe? I know that sounds like a silly question... because most everyone wants to hear that from the Father. However, your desire to hear that from Him is to be lived out in your everyday life to Him. It’s to be exemplified in how you live.

But HOW... do we really do this? Just claiming Him and doing things for Him obviously isn’t enough.

Consider ...

Matthew 7:21-23

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?’ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’

These were people who obviously thought they were serving the Lord. But were they serving the Lord on their terms ... or His?

We can say that we love the Lord, but what defines “love” in a relationship?

Seriously. Think about it. If I bought my wife a motorcycle and said I did so because I loved her, how do you think she would receive it? For what it’s worth, my wife doesn’t really like motorcycles. On the other hand, however, I happen to like motorcycles.

Though I may like the gift, my wife doesn’t. How would my “love” be perceived to her? Should I base my love for her on what I want to give her or what she wants to receive? It should be based on what she wants to receive. Right?

So we must ask ourselves, “What pleases the Father?” What is it that He desires from us? Because as exemplified by Matthew 7, it doesn’t matter what we want to give Him. What matters is what He wants to receive.

Everything we do for the Lord is absolutely meaningless if it’s not what He desires.

Think about it for a minute, the servant in Matthew 25 was told “**Well done good and FAITHFUL servant!**”

Faithful in what though? What is it that the Father has given us to do to be faithful in?

Comparing this against the verses given to us in Matthew chapter 7, it obviously isn’t that of prophesying, driving out demons or even performing miracles.

No doubt that these can be evident in the lives of the faithful, but it’s obviously not what the Father is looking for in the light of faithfulness.

In fact, it should be noted here that these very things can be evident in one’s life who claims to be a believer, yet still not be considered “faithful” in the eyes of the Father. In all honesty, this should make all of us do some serious soul searching and truly seek out which HE desires us to be faithful in.

What is it that we can glean from in Matthew 7 to truly understand just what it is that the Father is longing us to be faithful in?

Personally, I believe it is found in the last sentence mentioned to those He sends away. He says...

Matthew 7:23 Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’

The Greek for “evildoers” actually means workers of lawlessness.

What did He say next?

Matthew 7:24 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

What words did he speak?

John 14:10

Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.

John 14:24 He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.

The very words that Yeshua spoke was the eternal Word of God.

John 7:16 Jesus answered, “My teaching is not my own. It comes from him who sent me.

John 12:49 For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it.

So what words was He speaking in Matthew 7? Matthew 7 is actually a conclusion of what began in Matthew 5. This is where He said ...

Matt. 5:17-18

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.

Until heaven and earth pass, the law will not be done away with.

Now we can understand His statement ...

Matthew 7:23 Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’ OR “workers of Lawlessness.”

Again, until heaven and earth pass, the law will not be done away with.

So it is the eternal word that we are to pursue in pleasing the Father and not that of what we deem as worthy to give in our relationship with Him.

For as mentioned in Matthew 7...

Matthew 7:21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Gods will. His eternal instructions.

John 7:17 [If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own.](#)

How will they find this out? Because they have the written word, the law, to test His words to.

SO....

Is your service to God pleasing you, or Him? Can it be both? Oh of course. But our focus should be on pleasing Him and Him alone. In doing so, it WILL be pleasing to us as we serve and focus on what HE wants... and not us.

I ask you to examine your heart. Are you living your life for how YOU want to love the Father or how HE wants you to love Him? It's extremely critical.

So much so that it may be the deciding factor of you hearing Him say "Well done, good and faithful servant."

We pray you have been blessed by this message. Remember, continue to test everything.

Shalom!

For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at www.testeverything.net

Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.

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