

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

MATTHEW 6.1-4

JANUARY 2, 2019

### INTRODUCTION:

1. The sermon on the mount teaches us about true righteousness that comes from the heart.
  - a) **THESIS:** *“For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven”* (Matt. 5.20)
  - b) The righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees was superficial. (Matt. 23.25-28)
  - c) To be truly righteous, our attention is to be on the person of the heart. When your heart is right, it will be reflected in everything you do. (Matt. 12.34; 15.19; Prov. 4.23; 23.7)
2. To make your heart right, give attention to your attitude. (Matt. 5)
  - a) Your attitude in reference to yourself. (Matt. 5.3-12)
  - b) Your attitude in reference to others. (Matt. 5.13-16)
  - c) Your attitude in reference to God. (Matt. 5.17-48)
3. To make your heart right, give attention to your motivation. (Matt. 6-7.14)
  - a) Some are motivated by pride and the praise of men. (Matt. 6.1-18)
  - b) Some are motivated by materialism. (Matt. 6.19-34)
  - c) Some are motivated by popularity and social pressures. (Matt. 7.1-14)
4. To make your heart right, give attention to Jesus. (Matt. 7.15-27)
5. **MATTHEW 6.1:** *“Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.”*

### I. THE MOTIVATION OF PRAISE FROM MEN

- A. **MATTHEW 6.2:** *“Therefore, when you do a charitable deed”*
  1. Charitable (eleos): Literally, mercy. It is the idea of being moved with compassion to help those who are in need.
  2. The examples of Tabitha and Cornelius. (Acts 9.36; 10.2,31)
  3. We are to be people of charitable works. (Isa. 58.1-8; James 1.27; 2.14-26)
- B. **MATTHEW 6.2:** *“do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do”*
  1. Purposeful act of calling attention to your good deeds. (cf. Matt. 5.16)
  2. Hypocrite (hupokrites): To speak under. An actor who performs on stage.
  3. *“...in the synagogues and in the streets”* To their brethren and the world.
- C. **MATTHEW 6.2:** *“that they may have glory from men.”* Their true motivation.
  1. Praise from men can interfere with your relationship with God. (John 12.42,43)
  2. **MATTHEW 6.2:** *“Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.”* What reward?

### II. THE MOTIVATION OF PRAISE FROM GOD

- A. **MATTHEW 6.3:** *“...do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing.”*
  1. Our praise ought not to even come from ourselves. (Luke 18.9-14; 2 Cor. 10.17,18)
  2. **MATTHEW 6.4:** *“that your charitable deed may be in secret”* (kruptos; cryptic)
  3. Is it sinful to tell others about your good deeds?
- B. **MATTHEW 6.4:** *“and your Father who sees in secret”*
  1. God knows and sees everything. (Heb. 4.13; Ps. 33.13-15)
  2. *“...will Himself reward you openly.”* (Luke 14.12-14; Matt. 25.34-40)
  3. True righteousness comes from a motive to please God. (1 Cor. 4.5; 2 Cor. 5.9)
  4. How can I know what good deeds God approved? (2 Tim. 2.15)