*Friday, September 20, 2013*

**Heart**

Ephesians 6:5-8 Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; 6 Not with eye service, as men pleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; 7 With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men: 8 Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free. (KJV)

To sum up this week we have been looking within to what our true motive of the heart is and if we have pared it down to pleasing our Lord only. If you truly desire the Lord’s reward then it has to be done unto Him in all aspects of your walk, not just on Sundays.

Luke 6:33-35 And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? For sinners also do even the same. 34 And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? For sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again. 35 But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. (KJV)

You know when you do something for your own advantage then you take the Lord out of the equation and settle for man’s reward instead. When you lend or give to others unto the Lord only then you are now eligible for the greatest reward available. So what it comes down to is your motive, and is it the right one?

Proverbs 19:16-17 He that keeps the commandment keeps his own soul; but he that despises his ways shall die. 17 He that hath pity upon the poor lends unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again. (KJV)

When you do things for God’s people you are no longer looking at them from the outward, but you are looking within and seeing Christ in them. You are willing to give whatever is needed, not looking for a payback from man, but letting the Lord be your reward instead.

Proverbs 22:7 The rich rules over the poor and the borrower is servant to the lender. (KJV)

I bring this point up because I have seen many relationships shattered and obliterated because of carnal things. Lend hoping for nothing in return; in other words, if someone asks for help in the financial area, instead of putting stipulations on it consider it gone and given unto the Lord. If the borrower pledges to pay it back then that is between them and God. The lender actually becomes a servant as well if the pledge isn’t paid back in a timely manner, which can allow many fiery darts to penetrate your spiritual armor.

James 2:14-17 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, 16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? 17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. (KJV)

What you will find that works as far as salvation is concerned is having the proper motive of your heart and the proper reason for doing things. If it is to be pleasing to our Father in heaven then you will be giving to His people what is needed and not looking for anything in return, at least not from mankind. If you are doing it for the wrong motive, then you can chalk it up to dead works. Last time I looked we serve a God of the living and not the dead.

Matthew 25:44-46 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee a hungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? 45 Then shall he answer them, saying, verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. 46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal. (KJV)

Spiritually there are a lot of hungry people searching for truth who are not clothed with a robe of righteousness. As we see illustrated above those that don’t have the right motive will not have the right response to our Lord’s people who are considered one and the same with Him. Its bad enough they crucified Him once, its worse when we do it all over again crucifying His doctrine which we see He takes quite personally.

Try your hearts dearly loved whether your motives are upright or not; seek to please God and let Him be true. And finally dear brethren, be not unwise but understanding what the will of the Lord is. God bless and have a prosperous day in Christ Jesus our Lord.