

April 28, 2019 Pastor Bruce Adrian

# Sermon on the Mount

Lesson Twelve • Matthew 6:1-6; 16-18 God-Rewarded Righteousness

#### **God-Rewarded Righteousness of Kingdom Citizens**

God-rewarded righteousness lives for the glory of GOD, not for the glory of SELF.

"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." Matthew 6:1 ESV

## 2. Beware of Hiding <u>HYPOCRISY</u> in Your Heart!

"Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do..." Matthew 6:2

"And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites..." Matthew 6:5

"Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites..." Matthew 6:16

#### The Danger

When hypocrisy is in the heart, then "IMAGE MANAGEMENT" becomes the priority when practicing righteous deeds.

#### The Remedy

Know God as your heavenly  $\underline{\mathsf{FATHER}}$  and that you are eternally secure in your relationship with Him.

#### God-Rewarded Righteousness

### 1. Beware of Practicing <u>RIGHTEOUSNESS</u> for Show!

#### Three Examples: Giving, Praying & Fasting

#### Give without <u>FANFARE</u>.

"Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly." Matthew 6:2-4

#### Pray without <u>PRIDE</u>.

"And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly." Matthew 6:5-6

#### Fast without <u>NOTICE</u>.

"Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly." Matthew 6:16-18

## 3. Beware of Seeking <u>REWARDS</u> from People!

"Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward." Matthew 6:2; 5; 16

#### A Better Source, A Better Reward

God the Father <u>SEES</u> and <u>REWARDS</u>, and His reward is way better than the reward we get from people.

"and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly." Matthew 6:4; 6; 18

#### Are You Ready to Take Off the Mask of Hypocrisy?

You can be SET FREE from hypocrisy by the finished work of Jesus Christ.

And no creature is hidden from His sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account. Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:13-16 ESV