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A Heart Examination

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A HEART EXAMINATION

I Thess. 5:14-23

INT: Christians urged to practice introspection of heart often.

II Cor. 13:5 I Cor. 11:28 Text: 21. Matt. 26:21-22

Jesus judges service by covert reason as well as overt.

1. Giving alms: to help poor. to be bragged on. M. 6:2

2. Praying : to be heard of God or man. 6:5.

3. Fasting : to please God. Impress man. 6:17.

Jesus condemned the act based on improper motivation.

I. BIBLICAL EXAMPLES WARN US OF PREVALENCE OF SUCH DECEPTIONS.A. Old Testament.

1. King Saul gave David, Michal. Why? *Mervat* I Sam. 18:21-27

a. Parents use children for evil motives today. Presti

2.

B. New Testament full of such hypocrisy.

1. King Herod wanted to worship Christ? Matt. 2.

2. Multitude followed Jesus for truth? John 6:1-27.

3. Pharisees interested in justice? John 8. Trap.

4. Judas interested in the poor? John 12:6.

5. Judas kiss Jesus because he loved Him? Matt. 26:49.

6. Ananias and Sapphira benevolent givers? Acts 5.

II. TAKE AN INTROSPECTION TEST OF OUR OWN MOTIVES?

1. Work for Jesus if my labors are not bragged on?

2. Work less for Christ if I follow, rather than lead?

3. As happy servicing church as when church serving me?

4. Give more if publically known, than if unknown?

5. Eat Lord Supper because everyone does it, Love God?

6. Sing all songs, or just ones I like?

7. Read Bible because love Word, or to report no. read?

Conclusion: We can all do better. Eccles. 9:10.

III. THREE BASIC MOTIVES AMONG CHRISTIANS TODAY.A. FEAR of punishment. Most primitive. Good as starter.

1. Paul motivated by it. II Cor. 5:11. H. 10:31, 12:29.

a. Paul remembered Sodom & Gomorrah, Noah's flood etc.

b. Ill. R. L. Peters, Charleston, Miss. Now an elder.

2. Matt. 25:31-46 teaches every day is Judgment day.

B. HOPE of Reward. Affects all. Can produce hirelings.

1. God's promises are attractive. Jas. 1:17. II P. 1:4.

2. Christians lean heavily on them. Matt. 6:33.

3. Hope plays a lesser part than love. II Pet. 3:9.

C. LOVE for God. Highest motivation in Heaven or on Earth.

1. God has touched us with love. J. 3:16. R. 5:8. J. 15:13

* III. Some men see this. One wrote: "Could we with ink.

III. Hudson Taylor talking with group of youth who
planned to do mission work. Knt. II. P. 391.
(Commanded. Perishing. Go because Paul..

2. II Cor. 5:14. Love of Christ constrains me.

3. True love motivates us positively and negatively.

Matt. 22:37-39

I John 2:15-17.

B-R-C-B

R.-P.

INV: Greatest reason to obey gospel tonight. Love constrains.

Greatest reason to confess faults tonight. Love constrains

* GOD'S LOVE TO MAN

Could we with ink the ocean fill
And were the skies of parchment made,
And every blade of grass a quill
And every man a scribe by trade.

To write the love of God to man,
Would drain the ocean dry
Nor could the scroll contain the whole,
Though stretched from sky to sky!