

Standing Before God

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You have heard me say that when I stand before God I want to not only hear Him say well done My good and faithful servant but I also want to hear Him affirm that I accomplished what He destined me to do on this earth for the furthering of His Kingdom and Glory. I do not want to hear, “Well done, Wrong task.”

Hearing from God is much more than going to a prophet and getting a word. It is more than solely trusting that everyone is seeking to ensure you are where God wants you and doing what God wants you to be doing. It is more than reading the Word and getting an epiphany. It is also more than trusting your own heart, mind, emotions and imagination. It is more than trusting your own desires and ambitions. Would you really want to trust your obedience to God's purpose solely to one man or even yourself? No. Hearing from God is a personal responsibility to seek affirmation and Godly wisdom built upon sound judgment of God's precepts and principles that are consistent with His nature and intent. Look back at decisions and results of those decisions and identify the pattern or patterns they have been created on the trails of your past. Can you see good choices and bad ones? Can you see how you responded to each? When you stand before God it will be a first person experience. There will be no place for excuses, finger pointing, self-justification. It will be you, Him, your choices and your responses. He will review the patterns of your life in comparison or contrast to the patterns of His.

The Word of God says that the Scripture, the precepts, the principles of God are profitable to you when they bring correction, establish sound doctrine in you, train you in the ways of God and bring reproof when you deviate from God's pattern. It is amazing how many people can hear God for themselves when it involves something good, pleasurable, profitable for themselves or simply something they want to do. If God attempts to speak to them in any way that is contrary to what they have resolved then it is not and cannot be God. When it comes to God saying No, bringing correction, or reproof then God cannot speak to them personally or in any other way. This is a dangerous place to be. This is where personal responsibility and assessment through relationship must be the foundation of our decisions.

Just as there is a personal responsibility to accurately hear God's Word, instruction, and direction so there is a corporate responsibility and a responsibility when speaking or being responsible for the lives and destiny of others. The Word of God is to used to mold and shape people into the image of Christ and equip them for Kingdom service. The Word of God is not to be used to control, manipulate, or condemn people into what you think is best for you and your agenda. It is not to be used to beat people into submission. Submission comes through years of developed trust through covenant relationship. Covenant relationship exceeds geographical or inclusive boundaries. Covenant relationship is built upon a common purpose and trust in credibility.

As do you, I want to know the Way of the Master. And the Master wants you to know His Way for He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. The Way of the Master in the church, His Kingdom, and every aspect of our lives should not be cluttered with confusion and unrest. The Way of the Master should not be complicated and difficult to know what Father wants, desires, and expects. What good is a vision if it is cluttered. God wants to un-clutter His vision for you that you might truly know His Way.

Malachi 3:1-3 So how do I get the clutter and confusion out of the way and know for sure what God's desire is even when there is contradiction from others or within myself? How do I stand on the

principles and precepts and ensure I am making the right choices?

Let's look at the principles God lays out through the prophet to clear the Way for the Master:

1. Seek the Lord Fervently and Honestly
2. Keep the Law of Covenant
3. Delight Yourself in the Lord
4. Have a Pure Heart

The Lord God asks you a question here. "Who shall stand before Him when He appears?" Who will stand before Him who demands purity of heart, mind, spirit, and soul? Regardless of who you are, what you've done, where you've been, in this very moment could you stand before Him? With His eyes piercing your flesh looking at the essence of your heart what would He see in there? What are you hiding or what is lurking beneath the surface in the corners of your hearts motives?

You see, the messenger came and the Messiah came to the Sons of Levi as the prophet foretold and no one stood. Because all the things they were trying to stand on for their lives and hopes of redemption were not the things of the Master. They refused to stand on what He said. They rejected what the Master of Truth, the very Spoken Word of God made manifest had to say. They were trying to stand on what they thought, what they believed, what they wanted to believe and things that would benefit them.

Jesus said that **He did not come to condemn** them but they condemn themselves. He came that through Him (The Word) they may be saved from condemning themselves by the wickedness of their hearts contrary to the intent of the Law of God. Jesus said the words I speak will call you to stand and be condemned to death or redeemed to life. These words will either reveal your hearts and where there is wrong and you will run from it or to it and let it change you or be indifferent to it. So it is now. I stand before having been called and anointed to speak to the words of the Master. These words will either bring life or death, blessings or curses but the responsibility is yours. Jesus said, ***"These words I speak unto you are life and death, choose life."***

So many come into the church and make an effort to do the right things, say the right things, and try to mold themselves into the image of the church or ministry expectations and not the image of Christ. Then they find themselves gone astray and we wonder, they wonder, what happened? The question is not what happened but what did not happen. They tried to make a metaphoric idea of Jesus there life and not the Word. This Word is Jesus. Jesus is this Word. Make this Word about your life and your life about this Word.

When you stand before Him, what will you base the evidence of your salvation on? What will validate you knew Him except this Word? Will you say, "On December 12th, 1990, on the corner of 9th and Saint Avenue I ask Jesus in my heart?" And Father says, but where in My Word does it say you have a right to be here? What is your right to be here?" "But Jesus, Brother Marvin said..." Or will your life, your words, your actions, your thoughts, your heart, the lives of others speak volumes of the precepts, principles, and patterns of which you governed your life?

Luke 21:29-36 Who can stand before the Lord? Only His Word. Only the Word of God in you will be what He is looking for. Without His Word in you, you cannot stand. Not words just memorized, or general concepts understood, but the precepts, principles, and patterns embraced.