

Avoiding Hypocrisy
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Main Point:

Since your heavenly reward is from God your Father, practice righteousness to please Him, not man.

1. Jesus does not want you to practice righteousness for the praise of men.

2. Instead, Jesus wants you to practice righteousness to please your Father.

3. This is because your heavenly reward is from your Father, not man.

Quotations and Cross-References

Sinclair Ferguson “Their religion was theatrical, rather than genuine ... His outward actions suggest that his whole heart is focused on the Lord, but his inward desires are for the recognition and the praise of men.”

Mark Ross “It is mainly a matter of one’s motive, not whether the deed is public or private.”

John Legg “Pray to God for his own sake, not to impress others.”

John 4:34 ³⁴ ... "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. (NKJV)

1 Peter 1:3-5 ³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. (NKJV)

Colossians 3:22-24 ²² Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God. ²³ And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, ²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. (NKJV)