



Hypocritical Worship

Matthew 6:1-8

- 1) Hypocritical giving invites everyone to see
 - a) it seeks to be honored by men
 - b) its reward begins and ends with what man thinks
 - c) it honors self and not God
- 2) Proper giving is done in secret; seeks to honor God alone; it...
 - a) invests with God: Give, and it will be given to you (Luke 6:38; cf. 2 Cor. 9:6)
 - b) Is sacrificial: David (2 Sam. 24:24); the widow (Mark 12:41-44)
 - c) Is from the heart: those faithful with little will be faithful with much (Luke 16:10-12)
 - d) A personal commitment: each one is to do as he has purposed in his heart (2 Cor. 9:7)
 - e) Responds to a need: Paul's collection for the poor in Jerusalem
 - f) Demonstrates love for God; worships Him
 - g) Benefits the giver (Phil. 4:17)
- 3) Hypocritical prayers are loud enough for everyone to hear; they...
 - a) Are long-winded filled with drama, words, etc.
 - b) Result in worldly rewards
 - c) Entail thinking more highly of oneself than others (Luke 18:9-14)
- 4) Prayer done rightly communicates with God and is rewarded by Him
 - a) It is a private conversation even if done publicly
 - b) It does not use meaningless repetition or chanting
 - c) It takes into account that God already knows one's need before prayer (Ps. 139:4-8)
 - d) It is rewarded by God when done rightly
- 5) Observation/Application
 - a) Monitor your own worship, not everyone else's
 - b) Is your public prayer more fervent than your private prayer?
 - c) Do you play to the crowd in prayer or giving?
 - d) Is God's silence an indicator of your hypocritical prayers?