

VALIDATION FROM GOD

8/8/09

SEEKING VALIDATION FROM PEOPLE

John 12:42 many chief priests believed without confessing
-- to avoid being put out of synagogue
 43 they loved the praise of men more than the praise
of God

*Sometimes, people seek validation from people to enhance their religious standing within the religious system.

*But at other times, people seek validation from people to enhance their religious standing within their own minds.

Matt. 6:1-4 giving alms to be seen of men
 5-6 praying to be seen of men
 16-18 fasting to be seen of men

CHRIST'S EXAMPLE

* Jesus' self-respect was not primarily based upon what people thought of Him

John 4:34 to do His will -- and to finish His work
John 5:30 I seek not My own will
John 6:38 not to do My own will
John 8:29 I do those things that please Him
John 17:4 I finished the work You gave Me to do

* Jesus was out of favor with some people

Mark 7:1-14 corrected them -- traditions of elders
Luke 11:37-38 had not washed before dinner
 39-52 corrected them for their hypocrisy &
wickedness
 53-54 they sought to trap Him and accuse Him
Luke 20:20 they watched him & sought to trap Him
 21-26 Pharisees questioned Him
 27-38 Sadducees questioned Him
Luke 22:2 chief priests and scribes sought to kill Him

* Jesus was in favor with some people

Luke 4:33-37 cast out an unclean spirit
38-39 rebuked a fever
40-41 healed many -- cast out many unclean spirits
Luke 7:1-10 healed the centurion's servant
11-15 raised a widow's son
36-50 forgave the prostitute
Luke 8:26-36 healed a man of many devils
43-48 healed a woman
49-56 raised a daughter from the dead
Luke 9:11 healed many
12-17 fed 5,000

* Think about this -- most of the time, Jesus' actions caused Him to be out of favor with some people and in favor with others

Luke 5:29-30 the Pharisees hated that Jesus feasted with publicans & sinners
Luke 6:1-5 defended His disciples for being "not lawful" on the sabbath day
6-10 healed a man on the sabbath day
Luke 7:34 called Him a glutton and winebibber
Luke 13:11-17 healed on the sabbath day -- His adversaries were ashamed -- people rejoiced
Luke 14:1-6 healed on the sabbath day
Luke 19:2,6,7 went to the chief publican's home

1. ENJOY YOUR TIME AWAY FROM PEOPLE

John 6:15 Christ -- went into a mountain Himself alone

2. ENJOY YOUR SOLITARY TIME WITH GOD

Psalms 8:3 David -- meditated about the creation
Mark 1:35 Christ -- early morning -- solitary place
Luke 6:12 Christ -- continued all night in prayer

3. APPRECIATE THE PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE

1 John 2:27 not an absolute need -- a wonderful blessing
John 13:1 Christ -- loved His disciples
Acts 4:23 apostles -- went to their own company -- talked
Acts 16:40 Paul -- out of prison -- house of Lydia
Rom. 16:1-16 Paul -- saluting brethren
2 Tim. 1:16-18 Paul -- prison -- Onesiphorus