

# Beware Practicing Your Righteousness...In order to be seen

Matthew 6:1-6

# Main Idea

- The motives of our hearts in worship matter as much as the means of worship that we practice.

# Verse 1

- Beware of practicing your righteousness before others in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.
  - Summarizes 2-18

## 2 Warnings

- Do not give to the needy so that others would praise you (v. 2)
  - Reward is the praise of man only
- Do not pray in the synagogues and on the street so that others would see you (v. 5)
  - Reward is the praise of man only

## 2 Corinthians 10:17-18

- *“Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.” For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends.*

# God sees our hearts!

- God will not miss even the most subtle act of worship done for Him.
- Our secret acts of worship serve as a witness to the whole host of spiritual beings that we cannot see (Eph 3:10)

## 2 Correctives

- Give in secret (don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing) (vv. 3-4)
  - Your Father who sees in secret will reward you
- Pray to your Father in secret (v. 6)
  - Your Father who sees in secret will reward you

# 1 Peter 1:3-9

- <sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

# 1 Peter 1:3-9

- 6 In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, 9 obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.