

Notes for Matthew 6:1-4

Hebrew & Greek pronunciation spelled phonetically

We can do a good deed in a bad spirit. We can help the poor and still serve ourselves. We can appear sacrificial while secretly feeding an idol called human approval.

Matthew 5:16 - *‘Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.’*

1 Peter 2:21 - *For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.*

1 Corinthians 11:1 - *Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.*

Ephesians 5:1 - *Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.*

2 Kings 10:16 - *“Come with me and see my zeal for the LORD”.*

In Acts 5:1-11, Ananias and his wife, Sapphira, sold property but deceptively kept part of the proceeds while claiming to donate the full amount to the church. Confronted by Peter about lying to the Holy Spirit, both died instantly, serving as a severe, immediate judgment against hypocrisy and greed within the early church

Deuteronomy 15:11 - *For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore, I command you, ‘You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.*

Hypokritēs (hoop-awk-ree-tase) Greek word associated with stage actors; people who wore a mask; a pretender. That is Christ’s diagnosis of religious showmanship. A hypocrite is not simply a weak Christian who struggles. A hypocrite is a performer. This is perhaps the biggest image problem Christianity has: Hypocrisy. Being fake pretenders.

John 5:44 - *How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God? (We can’t)*

John 12:43 - *... for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.*

1 Corinthians 13:3 - *If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.*

Some bible versions translate it as:

If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Philippians 2:3 - *Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.*

Tabitha/Dorcas (Gazelle) in Acts 9:36-39, lives a life full of quiet acts of mercy.

Acts 9:36-39 - *Now there was in Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which, translated, means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity. 37 In those days she became ill and died, and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. 38 Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him, urging him, “Please come to us without delay.” 39 So Peter rose and went with them. And when he arrived, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping and showing tunics and other garments that Dorcas made while she was with them.*

1 John 3:1-2 - *See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.*

Galatians 3:26 - *for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.*

Romans 8:14 - *For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.*

Mark 12:41-44 - *And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. 42 And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. 43 And he called his disciples to him and said to them, “Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. 44 For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”*

Hebrews 6:10 - *For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints as you still do*

1 Kings 18:3-4 - *(Now Obadiah feared the Lord greatly, 4 and when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the Lord, Obadiah took a hundred prophets and hid them by fifties in a cave and fed them with bread and water.)*

If praise from men sweetens our obedience more than our heavenly Father’s smile, we are not merely battling bad habits; we are exposing an idol of the heart.

Tear it down and seek to live before God alone!

