



## How God Measures You

Dear readers, let me take a couple of moments and ask those of you who wonder why you may not have all the things you would like to have or be where in life you think you should be. Let me make some comments that may help many of you out.

I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all. For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so are the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falleth suddenly upon them.

(Ecc 9:11-12)

Yesterday after I finished watching the news, I watched a great movie. One that was not really famous and I am not sure it really made the Studio a lot of money. I think it was the last movie I took my Mom to see, many years ago. It was called Master and Commander with Russell Crowe. It was just an great adventure film, the kind of flick that I have always enjoyed. No sex scenes, no attempt to push the gay agenda, no drug addicts or raunch. In the movie there was a character who wound up committing suicide. The men had never accepted him and they certainly did not like him. He had been stuck in the same rank for a long time and was hardly anyone's picture of a success. The Capitan made a remark after his passing to the effect that not all of us turn out the way we would like to. I bring this little aside up because this is so true of most of us. Few of us become the people we wanted and even those that do, often find the price of their success is much higher than they thought.

Life is full of disappointments, big ones and little ones. How we deal with and accept them is called 'character'. Some get bitter. Some get depressed. Some (like me) get up, dust themselves off and keep on pressing forward. For the race is not run until we believers stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ to give account of the deeds done in the body. The trap of mammon is that in most instances, in order to keep your mammon-trophies, you have to keep on serving Mammon often with greater vigor and deeper moral and ethical compromises as time passes.

This is something that most of us have to come to terms with. Life can be difficult and hard. It is very hard if you really attempt to live morally and with God's standards as your foundation. If you do this, you can never expect to rise very far in the business world (mammon). God's principles are diametrically opposed to the world's. You will find that if you are an auto mechanic, you will have to cheat your customers if you want to make a lot of money. If you are in any business and really want to

turn a buck, you are going to more often than not, going to have to do some dirt to make some scratch. This makes our walk with God sometimes difficult because we see others, who know not God or merely say they walk with him, but do the devils work doing well in a worldly sense and yet those of us who serve the Lord - we have enough, but our vats are not usually 'overflowing'.

Yes brothers, it is not always easy walking with God. The devil's children will always hold up the trophies of mammon as some kind of evidence of divine blessing. When in fact, it is almost always just the opposite. The devil does take care of his own. I know because I know who many of the nation's key satanists (as in ritualistic satanists) are and just how much money they have and how the rope in new servants into the kingdom of darkness. Those who serve darkness will often become rich beyond the dreams of avarice. But such riches come at a high price. My point here is a very important one, so lay hold to it. Those who toil in the fields of mammon often reap its rewards. Those who sell their soul to the spirit of mammon can become extremely wealthy. Those who toil in the fields of the Lord will reap a very different but eternal reward. But you cannot serve both, try as you might, no matter how many preachers you can get to tell you that you can, it cannot be done.

No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

(Luk 16:13)

But I have news for you. God does **not** measure you by how much money you have, the importance of your job, your fame, good looks, number of lovers, the brand of clothes or car you drive. That is how the world measures a man. God's standards are 180 degree's different than those superficial and transient measurements. We must always do your best to measure yourself against God's standards. Life is God's proving ground, to see which ones of us will enter into the Kingdom he has prepared for those who love Him and righteousness, truth, justice and love. He cannot determine if you really love righteousness if you never have to really make scarifies to maintain it. Besides brothers, money, status the fleeting glory of this world is a mighty powerful snare to many a Godly man and woman. God will take care of your needs. I did not say all of your wants, but you needs. Learn to be content in whatever state the Lord has called you, seek his face, do his will and let not the 'envy' demon gain a foothold in your soul.

Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have **learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content**. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

(Phi 4:11-13)

**But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And **having food and raiment let us be therewith content**. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and **follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness**. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.**

(1Ti 6:6-12)

Paul says he knows how to be abased and abound. For some of you, that period of abasement may be

God's test to see if he can trust you when the times of abundance are at hand. Will you stand with God when things are rough? He will remember you and leave a blessing. But let me say this as well, for it is always something I remember my mother used to say because. I can tell you truly, she lived her life GIVING to so many people and causes. She gave out of the abundance that God gave her, but there were times in her life of great want. Here is one of my Mom's favorite sayings.

"When God gives you a blessing, he seldom has you in mind".

What does that mean? It means that when God blesses you, he does it so that you can be a blessing to someone else. That lady across the street who just lost her job and was diagnosed with cancer? You are making \$5000 a month, spend about \$1500 and need about a thousand. Why not help that lady out? **Be a blessing**, especially to the household of faith.

I will close this small piece with what I think is one of the most telling pieces of scripture on the issue of money, sacrifice and giving. God measures things by the heart. Not the cash register.

And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.  
(Mar 12:41-44)

The abundance of what we have in heaven is not going to come from how much we can consume (the world's standards) but by how much we give, love and obey.

So brothers, **give**. There are many great Christian ministries who assist the poor, the persecuted, the sick and the dying. **God loves a cheerful giver**. Give responsibly, in faith know that it is an OPPORTUNITY to give to help someone else, keeping in mind those who **really** are in need. Some great ministries are out there such as [Persecution.org](http://Persecution.org)

God measures you by how much you give, how much you love and whether you do good or do evil.

By,

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