

Seeing God's Nature

Sunday Morning, April 12, 2015

Thesis:

When People See Our Behavior Being Different Than Human Nature, They Will See God's Nature in Us!
God Will Be Glorified and Lives May Be Touched For Him.

Introduction:

God Wants Us To Stand Out in this World for Him
By Exhibiting His Character or His Nature

Jesus Reveals Four Ways For Us To Exhibit His
Character or Let Others See His Nature

I. God's Nature of Initiating Love **(Luke 6: 27 – 36)**

27 “But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,
28 bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you.
29 To him who strikes you on the one cheek, offer the other also. And from him who takes away your cloak, do not withhold your tunic either.
30 Give to everyone who asks of you. And from him who takes away your goods do not ask them back.
31 And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.
32 “But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.
33 And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. *(More of Passage on Next Page)*

34 And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back.
35 But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil.
36 Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

Do Good To Those Who Hate You
Example: 2 Prize Hens/Chicken Pies
Loving Enemies Defuses Anger

We love because He first loved us. *(1 John 4:19)*

II. God's Nature of Giving Grace & Mercy **(Luke 6: 37 – 43)**

37 “Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. 38 Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.”
39 And He spoke a parable to them: “Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into the ditch?
40 A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher.
41 And why do you look at the speck in your brother’s eye, but do not perceive the plank in your own eye?

(More of Passage on Next Page)

42 Or how can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove the speck that is in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the plank that is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck that is in your brother's eye. (Luke 6: 37 – 42)

Don't Be Quick to Judge or Condemn

Grace and Mercy Direct People to God

For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment. (James 2:13)

God's Nature of Mercy Triumphed Over His Judgment of Us.

III. God's Nature of Bringing Forth Good Fruit (Luke 6: 43 – 45)

43 "For a good tree does not bear bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit.

44 For every tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they gather grapes from a bramble bush.

45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

Be Known For Your Godly Character
You Should Not Be Bearing Bad Fruit and Good Fruit

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. (Galatians 5: 22 - 23)

IV. God's Nature of Building on A Good Strong Foundation

(Luke 6: 46 – 49)

46 "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?

47 Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like:

48 He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock.

49 But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; & immediately it fell & the ruin of that house was great."

God's Nature Was Seen in Christ, The Rock,
The Foundation, The Cornerstone

Christ is Our Security Our Rock, Our Foundation
Our Cornerstone

Let Others See Your Security in Christ

Build Your Life Upon God's Rock, God's Foundation
God's Cornerstone

For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now build upon it with those things that can not be burned up.

(1 Corinthians 3: 11-13 paraphrase)

Conclusion:

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