

Mount Pisgah Baptist Church
Reverend Wendell G. Parker, Pastor Elect
Thursday Night IMPACT Bible Study
Reverend Gary Noble, Lesson Instructor
09/14/2023

TOPIC: "The Reasons Why We Have Problems"
SUBTOPIC: "Secret Service"

We *must* understand what God is trying to accomplish in our lives when we are experiencing problems!

GOD'S FIRST LESSON: God is wanting to take us to a *higher spiritual level*. His decision will be based on what He **sees**.

LIFE'S PRINCIPLE: Do not be concerned with what people **think**. But with what God **knows**.

MOUNT MOTIVATION: (Keep in mind that motivation can either be negative or positive:)

"I do what I do, so that Mount Pisgah can see me!"

- **The Secret Place to Serve God**

- a). **Matthew 6:1-2; 4 (Giving)**

Take heed that ye **do not** your **alms before men**, to be **seen** of them: otherwise ye have **no** reward of your Father which is in heaven.

² Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee,.....

³ But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth:

⁴ That thine alms may be in **secret**: and thy Father which **seeth in secret** himself shall reward thee *openly*.

b). Matthew 6:5 (Praying)

And when thou prayest,...the hypocrites...love to pray..that they may be **seen of men**.

⁶ But thou, when thou **prayest**, enter into thy **closet**, and when thou hast **shut** thy door, **pray** to thy Father which is in **secret**; and thy Father which **seeth in secret** shall reward thee *openly*.

c). Matthew 1:17-18 (Fasting)- ¹⁷ But thou, when thou fastest,...

¹⁸ "... appear not unto **men to fast**, but unto thy Father which is in **secret**: and thy Father, which **seeth in secret**, shall reward thee *openly*.

God wants a *personal* relationship with **YOU**. Not one with you and Mount Pisgah.

- Three similar, but yet quite different, phrases that are repeated throughout the Bible:

A. Did evil in the sight of the LORD:

1). **Judges 2:11**- And the children of Israel **did evil in the sight of the LORD**, and served Baalim:

2). **Judges 3:7**- And the children of Israel **did evil in the sight of the LORD**,...

3). **Judges 3:12**- And the children of Israel **did evil again in the sight of the LORD**:...

4). **Judges 4:1**- And the children of Israel **again did evil in the sight of the LORD**,...

5). **Judges 6:1**- And the children of Israel **did evil in the sight of the LORD**:...

7). **Judges 10:6**- And the children of Israel **did evil again in the sight of the LORD**,...

8). **Judges 13:1**- And the children of Israel **did evil again in the sight of the LORD**:...

B. Did that which is right in the sight of the LORD.

1). **Exodus 15:26**- And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt **do that which is right in his sight**,...

2). **Deuteronomy 6:18**- And thou shalt **do that which is right and good in the sight of the LORD**: that it may be well with thee,...

3). Deuteronomy 12:25; 28- "...that it may go well with thee, and with thy children...when thou shalt **do that which is right in the sight of the LORD.**

4). Deuteronomy 13:18- "...hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God,.. to **do that which is right in the eyes of the LORD thy God**

5). Deuteronomy 21:9- "...when thou shalt **do that which is right in the sight of the LORD.**

C. Did that which was right in their own eyes.

1). Judges 17:6- In those days there was no king in Israel, but **every man did that which was right in his own eyes.**

2). Judges 21:25- In those days there was no king in Israel: **every man did that which was right in his own eyes.**

3). Deuteronomy 12:8- Ye shall **not do** after all the things that we do here this day, **every man whatsoever is right in his own eyes.**

4). Proverbs 21:2- **Every way of a man is right in his own eyes:** but the LORD pondereth the hearts.

5). Isaiah 5:21- **Woe** unto them that are **wise in their own eyes...**

6). Proverbs 3:7- Be **not** wise **in thine own eyes:** fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

- Which church member is the sickest? Choose one:

1). ____ The one with prostate cancer?

2). ____ The one with colon cancer?

3). ____ The one with breast cancer?

4). ____ The one with pancreas cancer?

5). ____ The one with ovarian cancer?

6). ____ The one with liver cancer?

QUESTION: ____ (Place a mark in the blank): If all six of the “patients”, come to the hospital (Mount Pisgah); hoping to have surgery to remove the cancer, who can rightly point a finger at anyone of them and say, “Get out of this church!!! You have cancer!”

Matthew 7:3-5 (NIV)- ³ “Why do you look at the **speck of sawdust** in your **brother’s** eye and pay no attention to the **plank** in your own eye?”

⁴ How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the **speck** out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a **plank** in your own eye?

⁵ You hypocrite, **first** take the **plank** out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the **speck** from your brother’s eye.

CHURCH PRINCIPLE: _____ your own front door,

before you try to _____.