

# Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

**FOR YOUR FATHER KNOWETH WHAT THINGS YE HAVE NEED OF, BEFORE YE ASK HIM.**

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR.

SUNDAY MORNING OCTOBER 17, 2021

SCRIPTURE READING: **MATTHEW 6:1-9**

**Matthew 6:8, Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.**

## 1. BACKGROUND

- a. Please refer to the October 17, 2021 Evening Message for the Background.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

- a. Today the Lord has led me to speak from **Matthew chapter 6.**
- b. I want you to keep in mind the **Book of Matthew** was written primarily to the Jews and presents the King of a future kingdom where Jesus Christ will sit on the throne and rule and reign for a thousand years. **Revelation 20:6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.**
- c. As we have indicated before; all scripture is not addressed to us, but all scripture is for us. As a matter of fact, today we will make application to the Church using this passage of Scripture.
- d. In **Chapter 5** the Lord Jesus Christ spoke of the righteousness of God. **Romans 3:22, Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:**
- e. One of the things He said was that the righteousness of the saint or a believer must exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees. **Matthew 5:20, For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.**
- f. We understand that type of righteousness can only come through a saving knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. His blood must have covered our sins in order to get that type of righteousness. The dead soul must be revived by the Lord Jesus Christ. **Romans 5:9, Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.** **Romans 9:30, What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith.**
- g. After we are saved, we build rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ.
- h. We are told to build upon the foundation gold, silver and precious stone. **1 Corinthians 3:12-14, Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13: Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14: If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.**
- i. When we talk about the practical aspects of the Christian faith, our Lord has put together a chapter here that includes several factors.
- j. First of all, He talks about the **giving of alms.**
- k. He speaks of **prayer and fasting.**
- l. He also speaks of **money and taking thought for the future.**
- m. As we allow this to unfold- keep in mind that faith without works is dead. **James 2:26, For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.**

- n. This means we are not saved by our works; but after we are saved there is a work for God. **Ephesians 2:8-9, For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9: Not of works, lest any man should boast. John 6:29, Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.**
- o. Remember the house of God can only be maintained by the people of God. This is the reason why we do not ask unbelievers to support the church.
- p. With that in mind, let's focus on several things from the **Book of Matthew** and see what we can glean from God's precious Preserved Word today.

### 3. NINE POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

#### a. Take heed that ye do not your alms before men.

1. **Matthew 6:1, 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. I took the liberty to get a definition of alms. I believe this definition reflects what God intends in this particular verse. "Kind deeds arising out of compassion" This word is found 14 times in **Matthew, Luke, and Acts** only, two passages amplify the aforementioned definition. **Acts 3:2-3, And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; 3: Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms, 1 Corinthians 16:2, Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.**
3. For an application from the Old Testament, we need to look at **Leviticus 19:9-10, And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest. 10: And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger: I am the LORD your God.** This is an act of compassion motivated by wanting to please God.
4. **Acts 9:36, Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did.**
5. The guidelines are we are to give privately. This is a transaction between the believer and God. **Otherwise, we have no reward.**
6. Many times, believer's rewards are given by men.
7. We should want rewards from our Heavenly Father that will be given at the Judgment Seat of Christ. **1 Corinthians 3:14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.**
8. We must keep in mind that our Lord is directing His remarks and subject here to the coming Kingdom; however, it can certainly be applied to you and I today.

#### b. Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet.

1. **Matthew 6:2, Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.**
2. Everything that we do should glorify our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **1 Corinthians 10:31, Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.**
3. We were created for His glory. **Revelation 4:11, Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.**
4. In order to really understand what God is saying here let's look at the background.
5. When the Pharisees were ready to reward or give something to the poor, it was their custom to sound an alarm. As a matter of fact, they were sounding an alarm in order to call the poor and needy.
6. God views this as getting glory from men.
7. They blew a trumpet, and everybody came running out to see how generous they would be. God says He frowns upon such a thing.
8. He refers to them as hypocrites.
9. We must be careful when we are giving to people that we do not damage their self-esteem or self-concept or embarrass them in any way.
10. We should do it secretly before our Lord and He will reward us openly.

11. If we have the right motive in mind, we can certainly do that without a third party being involved in the process.
12. It is not wise to go and tell people as to what we are doing for others.
13. God says if the heart is right, we will do what He wants us to do.
14. Notice that He gives us instructions.

**c. But when thou doest alms.**

1. **Matthew 6:3-4, 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.**
2. Once again, He emphasizes the actual process in giving to the poor and says to do it in secret.
3. Secret means we are **not** to go and tell others how badly people might be struggling or share their personal business through malicious gossip.
4. Even in our day, we have many people who struggle. They are calling for help and we must be sensitive to their need.
5. We might not be able to help everybody, but we can certainly be kind and we can listen and be compassionate. **Proverbs 15:1, A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.**
6. That is what the giving of alms is all about.
7. **let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: - When we do it God's way there is a reward for alms-giving.**
8. Chesswood Baptist Church must always be sensitive to the needs of those who have not.
9. Our Lord moves to another aspect which is prayer.

**d. And when thou prayest.**

1. **Matthew 6:5, And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.**
2. Our Lord uses some very strong language calling them hypocrites.
3. **that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.** – I have noticed certain people will wear prayer shawls and advertise the fact they are praying for someone.
4. I wonder sometimes if that is what the Lord is talking about here?
5. He told us that our most effective prayer is when we enter our closet and close the door. **Matthew 6:6, 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.**
6. I firmly believe we should be prayed up before we even enter the sanctuary, if we are we will be a blessing to someone. **Hebrews 10:25, Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.**
7. Notice the instruction that the Lord now gives us.

**e. But thou, when thou prayest.**

1. **Matthew 6:6, 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.**
2. We have established the fact that in order to get a prayer through to the throne of God, we must be saved and born again.
3. We must be mindful of the fact that this is not for unbelievers. **Psalms 66:18, If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:**
4. We also know that this relationship comes as a result of receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Saviour. **John 1:12, But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:**
5. God reminded Nicodemus that he must be born again. **John 3:3, Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.** We must not allow ourselves to be confused by men and women that display a credible amount of Christian principles. Christian principles will work for both believers and unbelievers,

- but we must be born again in order to get into Heaven. The dead soul must be revived.
6. We must understand when we are saved and born-again we can come boldly before the throne of grace. **Hebrews 4:16, *Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.***
  7. We come with our petitions, thanksgiving, adoration and praise. **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, *Rejoice evermore. 17: Pray without ceasing. 18: In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.***
  8. We do not set up predetermined conditions for God. If this comes true, then it is an answer to prayer. We must be very careful about those type of prayers my friend.
  9. Notice God's Word says when we pray in secret, He will reward us openly. Prayer is to be secret and sincere which limits most public praying.
  10. We are to ask God for what we want and not be wordy about it.
  11. He gives us those instructions in the next point.

**f. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions.**

1. **Matthew 6:7, *But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.***
2. We must be very careful about vain repetition.
3. I listen to prayers often and it is nothing more than vain repetition.
4. Our Lord again uses strong language. He says ***the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.***
5. I want to emphasize the fact that God is not hard of hearing. The throne of God is not moved by secret codes or secret language. He expects us to communicate with Him in secret using our own native tongue. I cannot find any scripture to support a tradition of a heavenly language. **Romans 8:26 *Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.*** Certainly, one cannot conclude that from the previous verse that this speaks of a unknown tongue or a so called heavenly language.
6. We do not have to yell and scream; He knows what we have need of before we ask Him.

**g. For your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.**

1. **Matthew 6:8, *Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.***
2. God is saying several things here: He wants to make sure that our prayers are sincere. **James 4:3, *Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.***
3. We are not to seek rewards of men. **Matthew 6:6, *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.***
4. Our prayers also need to be simple.
5. We have just read that we are not to use vain repetitions. We need to go to the bottom line with the Lord and tell Him what our petitions are.
6. He has already advised us to let our requests be made know unto God. **Philippians 4:6-7, *Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7: And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.***
7. God knows all about us and knows what we have need of.
8. I do not believe the model prayer we are about to consider should be used verbatim in a public service. We must remember it is a model prayer.
9. The model prayer is not only for Israel but for believers of all ages.

**h. After this manner therefore pray ye.**

1. **Matthew 6:9, *After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.***
2. Several Sunday's ago we spoke extensively from the **Book of Luke** on the model prayer as He taught His disciples.
3. Today we are speaking from another perspective on the model prayer.
4. The Gospels are not to be harmonized. They were written to different groups of people at a

- different point in time.
5. We established the fact that our prayers should be **Our Father**.
  6. The Lord Jesus Christ tells us to pray to the Father in His name and He will give us our petitions providing we are in His will. **John 16:23-24, And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. 24: *Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.***
  7. **which art in heaven,** - We know where Jesus is as He is seated at the right hand of the Father making intercessions for us. **Romans 8:34, Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.**
  8. **Hallowed be thy name.** – This means we respect God for who He is.
  9. When Abraham went into Canaan, the Canaanites passed by and observed him. He was always building altars unto God. **Genesis 22:9, And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood.**
  10. The Canaanites understood that Abraham was honest and was serving the True and Living God.
  11. What an impact this had on them. The Word of God says in **Genesis 21:22, And it came to pass at that time, that Abimelech and Phichol the chief captain of his host spake unto Abraham, saying, God is with thee in all that thou doest: Genesis 23:6, *Hear us, my lord: thou art a mighty prince among us: in the choice of our sepulchres bury thy dead; none of us shall withhold from thee his sepulchre, but that thou mayest bury thy dead.***
  12. The entire life of Abraham was one spent in reverence to God.
  13. We could certainly use that lesson today. We must understand who God is and not attempt to bring Him down to our level. **Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him**

#### 4. CONCLUSION

- a. My friend, do you know the Saviour?
- b. If you do not know Him as personal Saviour, today needs to be your day of salvation. **2 Corinthians 6:2, (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)**
- c. Remember what the Lord told us in **Matthew 6:26, Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Matthew 6:28-30, And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30: Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?**
- d. Then the Lord sets the priority for us; **Matthew 6:33-34, But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 34: Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.**
- e. We praise God for the opportunity to share with you God's perspective on alms-giving, prayer and fasting and the kingdom that is to come.
- f. Would you come to Christ today?
- g. **Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**
- h. **Romans 3:10, As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:**
- i. **Romans 10:9-10, That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**
- j. Would you please stand?

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