

Honor 1

Matthew 10:40-43

What reward do you want? What reward do you want from serving God?
How can you get a better reward? How can you get a full reward?

2 John 1:8

Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we receive a full reward.

Everyone likes rewards. We all like to receive rewards for what we do or stand for. For some things we get good rewards and for others we get great rewards.

If there is a full reward then there is a partial reward and then there is situation when you won't get a reward.

But Ps Jude when we give our lives to Jesus we go to heaven. Yes. That's true but in heaven at the judgment there are rewards given.

Since the bible says to 'Look to yourselves' we need to look at what we do and maybe change it.

I want to share with you a powerful principle. It will change your life. It will bring favour into your world. It will cause things to happen to you that are amazing. It will open doors for you. It will unleash God's favour on your life in a way you will never see if you don't understand it. Its simply amazing.

Ps Jude please tell us what this is.

Mark 6:1-6

So what's the principle?

It's honor.

Honor is to value something. You place a value or respect on something.

In Greek it is the word 'time' (tim-ee) it carries on it the meaning of 'a valuing' – valuable, precious, and weighty like gold.

Webster's dictionary – the esteem due or paid to worth; high estimation; a testimony of esteem; any expression of respect or of high estimation by words and/or actions.

The opposite of honor is dishonor. Its meaning is to not show respect or value, to treat as common, **to treat as ordinary** or menial.

Greek word is **'atimia'** (**ah -tim -ee**). It carries with it the idea of something common, light and easily done away with such a vapor or gas.

So when we treat what God calls special as ordinary we dishonor not only the thing or person we dishonor God.

So why is honor so important to me? You may ask.

If you want to get a reward then learn to honor.

2 Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Getting back to Mark 6:1-6

Let's give some understanding to what is happening here. It's quite amazing. **Jesus had the power** . He was the son of God. He had the very nature of God at his disposal and yet the bible is very clear in saying, **'He could do nothing but a couple of small things.'**

What stopped Jesus, the saviour of the world doing mighty works? What stopped **Jesus the one who is healing** doing works? What stopped the **awesome creative power of God** being manifest in their world? What stopped, hindered, halted, caged, blocked what they wanted or needed coming into their lives?

Something here stopped the very power of God working in their lives and what's more they did not see it nor care that they had missed out.

Dishonor.

Paint the picture of Jesus growing up. Paint picture of knowing someone.

They knew Jesus as the boy next door. He was in their child's Hebrew class. He chased their child and threw water on them, played practical jokes on them.

He might have even made some of their furniture in their houses!

They saw him and treated him as just like themselves.

'They were offended by Jesus and their offence caused them to withhold honor from Him. The people of Nazareth did not see Him as extraordinary,

only ordinary. They were familiar with Jesus, and to them, He was just a common local – there was nothing special about Him.’ (page 7)

This is amazing. **Jesus could not fulfill His commission (Luke 4:18) from God not because it wasn't the will of God for all to be healed in that city, but because they restricted Him by withholding honor** Thus they only received a partial reward – a few were healed.

'Honor's Reward, p14

Often God will send us what we need in a package we don't want Why? To let us know He is God and we can not second guess Him. We can't search for answers with our mere heads.' Just because we get something we need in a package we don't like doesn't mean we should through out the package.

Expectations are great and we need them but we need to just give God the freedom to manifest His power as he chooses.

Let's look at Mark 7:24-30

Break it down

1. Gentile woman comes asking for help
2. Jesus ignores her.
3. She keeps asking.
4. Jesus compares her to a dog sounds like a law suit waiting to happen to me. This could and would be viewed as racial discrimination, defamation. Recently M Corby got over 5Million for a defamation case.
5. She answers with great respect and honor and gets her miracle. She refuses to take offence and allow dishonor to come into her world. She called him Lord. This is a term of respect and honor. She pushed past her own insecurities, her own offences and still honored the person to whom was due honor.

We can so easily get caught up in a place of complaining about things we loose sight of God.

John 13:20

Most assuredly, I say to you, he who received whomever I send receives me; and he who receives me receives Him who sent me.

Let's again look at Matthew 10:40-42

When you receive someone you welcome it into your world. You honor it. You give it a place of value in your world.

So let's replace the word receive with Honor and see what the scripture says.

I wonder if you have ever dishonored something or someone you should have honored.

We don't have to like someone to honor them. We honor them because of the position or power they have.

Policemen need our honor. Politicians need our honor. To give honor to someone we don't like we need to get over ourselves.

All authority is given by God. Therefore we could say that God sent them to us. John 13:20.

We can not always honor Jesus directly, but we can honor Him by seizing the opportunities he gives us to honor others .

For us today a tangible way to honor Jesus is by honoring those he has called and sent to represent Him.

Galatians 6:10. 'Being mindful, being a blessing to those of the household of faith'.

Prayer of forgiveness for dishonoring authority.