

GIVING BEFORE THE FACE OF GOD

Matthew 6:2-4 // June 4, 2023 PM

I. Haughty hypocrites give for man's praise (v. 2).

- A. Hypocritical givers don't fear God.
- B. Hypocritical givers don't love the needy.

II. Humble disciples give for God's praise (vv. 3-4).

- A. Humble givers fear God.
- B. Humble givers love the needy.

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. What are alms? Why do you think Jesus begins with this example as He warns against serving God with a wrong heart?
2. Did God command almsgiving in the Old Testament? If so, why?
3. Why does Christ call selfish givers hypocrites? What is a hypocrite? From where did the Greek word arise?
4. Were people literally blowing trumpets when they gave in the 1st century synagogues? How might we draw attention to ourselves today when we give?
5. What does it mean to not let our left hand know what our right hand gives? Can our giving never be known in any sense by us or others?
6. How does humility toward self as it is wed to fear toward God and love toward other people enable us to give sincerely?
7. What are the differences between the rewards of the proud giver and the humble giver?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. In what specific ways am I tempted to give my money, time, and abilities to serve the needy all to the end of self-glory and the praise of man?
2. Why can't a proud heart rightly carry out a Godward act of love toward our fellowman? How is humility in Christ the key to sincere giving?
3. What is one practical way I could foster humility in my giving?