



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – October 24, 2010

Heart to Heart...

Some time back there was a news program that ran a feature on a school which put "*self-esteem*" above everything else. One student after another stood before the class telling of their personal greatness. One girl said, "*I'm important just because I love me!*" What was more interesting is many of them couldn't do some of their school work but they had an abundance of "*self-esteem.*" What was shocking was to hear the teachers interviewed and they were thrilled with the students!

Let's think about this together in light of the Lord. With this "*self-esteem*" issues that are floating in many parts of our society and the psychology that is being put out for our minds, this looks a lot like Biblical "*pride*" or "*vanity.*" That's not a good thing. I know there are many of the positive thinkers out there who would get upset with me for saying such but we need to filter things through Jesus and not man. It seems more and more are losing sight of what the Lord wants and speaks. Let's see this through God's word. Let's stand next to Jesus and let Him explain what He wants from each of us:

We are proud of our *status* in life – Jesus was God in the flesh and He emptied Himself. (Philippians 2:7)

We are proud of our *family accomplishments* – Jesus grew up in the home of a carpenter. (Mark 6:3)

We are proud of our *profession* – Jesus was a carpenter, a lowly profession in the first century.

We are proud of our *homes* – Jesus had no place to lay His head. (Matthew 8:20)

We are proud of our *wealth* – Jesus gave up all true riches and became poor for our sakes.

(II Corinthians 8:9)

We are proud of our *distinguished friends* – Jesus was friends with uneducated fishermen.

We are proud of the *high social circles* in our lives – Jesus was at the homes of tax collectors and sinners.

(Luke 19)

We are proud of our *abilities* – Jesus said He can do nothing on His own initiative. (John 5:30)

We are proud of our *education* – Jesus was never educated by man.

We are proud of our *personal gain* – Jesus said He did not seek His glory but the glory of God.

(John 5:44)

That makes me pause and think. My mind goes to God's teachings, "***Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus.***" (Philippians 2:5) Think about it!!!

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