

"But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth." 2Corinthians 10:17-18 KJV



We are fond of awards in our society. It would take volumes to enumerate the number that have been awarded for various accomplishments. Some are well deserved and others are merely certain factions among us patting themselves on the back publicly. They are now even handing out “participation” trophies. When sodomites, adulterers, and murderers start receiving acclaim it’s time to reevaluate how we measure success. Achievements in this life do not measure success, but eternity does! To many young men have tried to emulate some great preacher and have ended in ruin. I think God allows the great fall to refocus our praise on Himself. *“I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another.”* God’s Word defines success for us: *“This Book of The Law (God’s Word) shall not depart out of thy mouth (conversation); but thou shalt meditate (think) therein DAY AND NIGHT, that thou mayest observe to do according to ALL THAT IS WRITTEN therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have GOOD SUCCESS.”* Someone who has spent the better part of their life indulging in horrendous acts of sin and debauchery becomes a believer and suddenly, they are catapulted into the “testimony” limelight as some kind of spiritual hero. We forget the only reason they overcame anything is by God’s Word! So why don’t we applaud and revere God for His deliverance instead of the delivered? Or those faithful from childhood? Why is it that a man can give his entire life to God from his childhood and not even receive honorable mention? Who among you has heard the name “Vance Havner?” He started preaching the Gospel at age 11 and preached well past the age of 75. Nearly three quarters of a century of Godly example, but what acclaim has he received? I seriously doubt many know who he is! There’s going to be shame on Judgment Day among those who lauded the unfit over the saint when they see to whom God hands the crowns! Ex-bikers, adulterers, drug addicts etc. are not role models for our youth. Let’s give them the likes of Enoch, Elijah, John Bunyan, David Livingston, William Carey, Hudson Taylor and our ultimate example, of course, Jesus Christ! These all suffered untold hardship and misery for the faith. God’s Word states that *“Those that live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.”* Are you being persecuted? In the U.S. we are blessed with freedoms that were purchased with blood. We have taken them for granted and now they are being stealthily ferreted away under our very noses. If we buy into the satanic rhetoric of “separation of church and state,” then we deserve to lose our blood-bought freedoms. Our founding fathers had no compunction whatsoever about including God in their politics and neither should we!

When God approves, a man stands tall,
Not one, receiving praise from all,
Should we receive of men’s acclaim,
Pray that it comes in Jesus’ name. ~CGP

“Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? Eat thou not the bread of him that hath an evil eye, neither desire thou his dainty meats: For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: ‘Eat and drink,’ saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee. The morsel which thou hast eaten shalt thou vomit up, and lose thy sweet words.” Beware flattery of evil men!

“A man that flattereth his neighbour spreadeth a net for his feet.” Proverbs 29:5 KJV