*Monday, June 17, 2013*

**Motives**

Proverbs 16:1-3 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD. 2 All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits. 3 Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established. (KJV)

This week the question dares to be asked, what is your real motive for serving the Lord? Is it for fame and fortune, to build a big following, or do you consider yourself in the column of the few and true, motivated only by a love for the Lord? Are you really committed to the Lord and what He is asking of you personally, or do you consider commitment simply showing up at a building on Sunday morning good enough?

Matthew 6:5-6 And when thou prayest, thou shall 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. 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. (KJV)

One thing that just rubs me the wrong way is people who think their prayers will be more effective if they have an audience. I watch them in restaurants when they make it a point to be seen so that everyone knows they are praying over their meal. My question is are they really praying for a blessing over the meal, or is it their way of letting everyone know they are Christians?

1 Peter 2:21-23 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: 22 Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: 23 Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judges righteously: (KJV)

I believe the above example falls into the category of love for God, and reveals how the Lord truly walked, and that He didn’t just put on a good show.

How committed are you to the Lord today and what is your motivation? Is it based on a love for God? And when the sufferings take place (which all in Christ must go through), will you spend most of your time talking about the problem with others, or will you give the solution over to the Lord in prayer?

God bless dearly loved, and have a prosperous day in Christ Jesus our Lord.