

Attitudes Needed Today

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In the Book of Proverbs, we find that attitudes are largely important. (Prov. 4:23; 23:7) Attitude is how we look at something and the feelings we have around it. There are several attitudes that existed in the early church that need to be revived today.

In 2 Corinthians 8:5, the phrase “but first gave their own selves to the Lord.” is found. It is very difficult to find those who will wholly devote themselves to God today. We need more individuals stepping up and offering full devotion to God. One cannot properly serve Him without full devotion. If we do not first give to Him, then we are not setting our priorities on Him. Similarly, the idea of “spend and be spent” in 2 Corinthians 12:15 shows the level of commitment one must have. Do we wear ourselves out being busy for the kingdom? Do we spend a good bit a time on our work for God? Are we found to be in the service of the Lord?

In Acts 17:11, we see the Berean Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica because they searched the scriptures daily. They were not simply listening to the teaching, but were seeking it out to see if it was true. Do many spend time searching the Word of God for truth? This is the only way we will be able to know the truth so that our faith will not be found in the wisdom of men. (1 Corinthians 2:5) A similar idea is found in 1 Thessalonians 2:13, “received the Word as the Word of God.” They took the Word at “face value”. It is the Word of God, it does not need man’s opinions on it, but simply let the Word speak. If we could get people today to have this attitude towards the Word of God, we could have greater success in getting them to obey the gospel.

Paul makes a large statement in Romans 1:16-17 — “I am not ashamed of the Gospel”. He boldly proclaimed it and abided in it. He wore it proudly, and would talk to others about it. Many seem almost to be ashamed of the gospel. They hide it on a mantle and do not respond when people attack it. Remember what else he said, “for it is the power to salvation!” The Gospel contains the righteousness of God which has the power to save. (Psalm 119:172)

In Philippians 3:13-14, Paul speaks of forgetting those things which are behind. People can become bogged down by the past. Many dwell there without looking to what is ahead. We must not look back, we must continually “press on” to what awaits at the end. We cannot let the things of the past hinder our growth and service.

A verse most people are familiar with is Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ." Many know the verse but do not act like they believe it. I can speak to others about the kingdom, I can be active in service, I can serve God fully, etc. We often let fear stop us from "doing". We must have an attitude grounded in God that causes us to move and serve.

In Galatians 1:10, Paul talks about not seeking to please men. This attitude is scarce today. Churches are compromising the truth for their own pleasure. Many seek alternative methods to worship to please people. So many do not care about serving God so long as their fellow man is happy. Where is the idea of not seeking to please men. If we please men, we have our reward. We should rather please God for the reward that awaits us.

These attitudes are all needed today. How's your attitude? — **CW**