

Ad Free Righteousness Matthew 6:1-4

A Different Idea

Considered many areas of instruction to “exceed the righteousness of the pharisee”
Now find instruction to temper our righteousness
Warned about ‘showiness’ in our righteous activities
Alms, Prayer, Fasting

Attitude Is Important

Many are very obvious about their religious activities to make sure everyone knows they are Righteous.

Jesus says “no trumpets” - **Matthew 6:2**

Light of righteousness will shine on its own, no need to declare it to the world - **Matthew 5:16**
Easy to fall into an attitude of “proclaiming our righteous acts” through social media or other avenues.

“There’s definitely a trend with some Christians where they display their faith for others in the form of Bible verses on social media, crosses on their clothing and car, and God-centered speech, but it’s not lived out in every day life in the form of true devotion to God and working for the kingdom of Christ.” - Kyle Campbell FB Post

As he mentions we can ‘be seen’ even when we are not actually ‘doing.’

Jesus calls for us to be active, not showy - **Matthew 7:21–23**

We must keep our pride in check!

Actions are to bring praise to God, not self

Avoiding not only praise of others, but also self-praise - **Matthew 6:3**

"The expression probably refers to the fact that as much as possible a person must keep his voluntary contribution a secret not only to others but even to himself; that is, he should forget about it, instead of saying in his heart, ‘What a good man, woman, boy, girl, am I!’"
Hendricksen)

Such a part of our life that it becomes "second nature" so that you do it without much thought
(just as with anything you do often)

Reward is tied to attitude - **Matthew 6:2**

Alms Giving

Expected with proper attitude - **Matthew 6:3–4; 1Timothy 6:17–19**

James tells us this is part of what God expects of those who live righteously - **James 1:27**

Early Christians were engaged in such activities - **Acts 2:44–45; 4:34–35; 1Corinthians 16:1–2; Romans 15:25–26**

They were not seeking ‘atta boys’, but rejoiced in the opportunity to help their brethren.

God Will Reward

Joy and blessing in this life - **Psalms 41:1–3**

Certainly in judgement - **Ecclesiastes 12:14; 2Corinthians 5:10; Matthew 6:4**

DLH/JLH