



encounter Jesus

The Faithful Rebuker

Matthew 23:1-33

Who Was Jesus? (By Gregory of Nazianus)

- Jesus began his ministry by being hungry, yet he is the Bread of Life
- Jesus ended his earthly ministry by being thirsty, yet he is the Living Water
- Jesus was weary, yet he is our rest
- Jesus paid tribute, yet he is the King
- Jesus was accused of having demons, yet he cast out demons

Who Was Jesus? (By Gregory of Nazianus)

- Jesus wept, yet he wipes away our tears
- Jesus was sold for thirty pieces of silver, yet he redeemed the world
- Jesus was brought as a lamb to the slaughter, yet he is the Good Shepherd
- Jesus died, yet by his death he destroyed the power of death

Proverbs 17:10

A rebuke goes deeper into a man of understanding than a hundred blows into a fool.

Proverbs 12:1


Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid.

Psalm 141:5

Let a righteous man strike me—it is a kindness; let him rebuke me—it is oil for my head; let my head not refuse it.



That's what I love about Jesus.
He is a Faithful Rebuker!



Matthew 23:1-33

(page 828)

Matthew 23:4

They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger.

5 Sin Categories of the Pharisees

1. Hypocrisy
2. Self-righteousness
3. Greed
4. Power and control over others
5. Living for the esteem of man rather than God.

1. Hypocrisy



1. Hypocrisy

A hypocrite is someone who spends their life pretending to be more righteous than they are.

A Christian is someone who knows they have no righteousness of their own, but whose righteousness is found in Jesus Christ alone.

2. Self-righteousness

A self-righteous person is someone who makes themselves the new standard. They rely upon their own resume' in order to be pleasing & acceptable to God.

A Christian knows that only God's standard matters, (which is perfection). Therefore he abandons all hope of self-righteousness, and clings to the righteousness freely offered to him through the death of Christ.

Luke 18:9-14

[Jesus] also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt:

“Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’

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Luke 18:9-14

But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other.”

3. Greed

(Verse 14, as included in some translations):

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites,
because you devour widows' houses,

3. Greed

A greedy person pursues unjust gain because he looks to his wealth and possessions for life, security, and status.

A Christian pursues a life of generosity because he knows that his life, security, and status come from a generous God.

Matthew 19:24

Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.

4. Power and Control



4. Power and Control

The power-hungry person is never satisfied. He is driven to have everyone subservient to his authority, rules, and standards, while he relishes lording it over them.

The Christian understands that the greatest will be the servant of all. He is most happy being under the humble authority of his Good Shepherd, and seeks for others to enjoy the same.



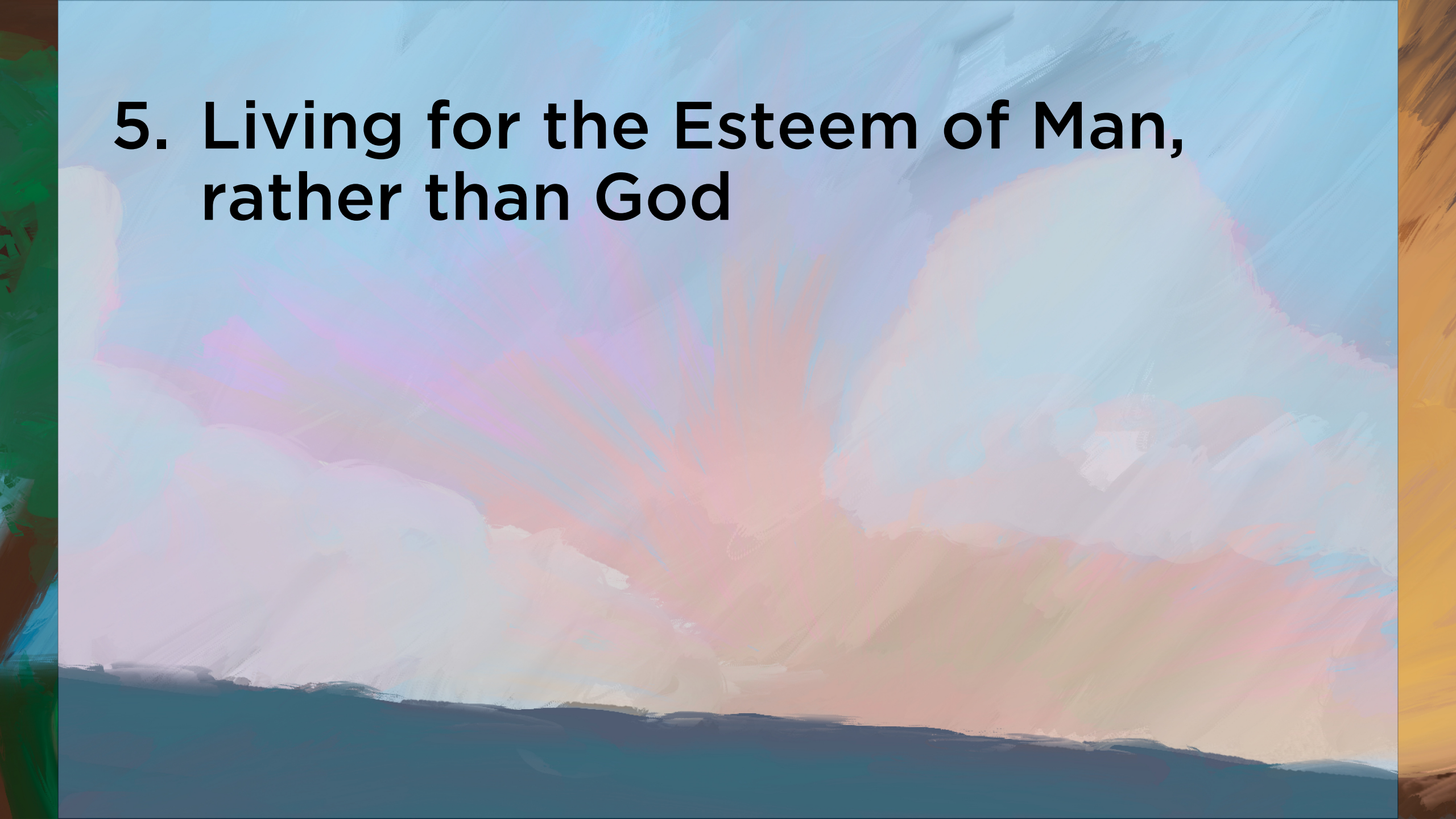
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“How much authority does a pastor have,
in the lives of his congregants?”

Philippians 2:5-7

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

5. Living for the Esteem of Man, rather than God



Luke 16:15

And [Jesus] said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.”

1. Living for the Esteem of Man, rather than God

The worldly person cares supremely about earthly, physical, and temporal things.

The Christian cares supremely about heavenly, spiritual, and eternal things.



“Imagine seeking validation from a
world that crucified a perfect man.”

~ Derick Johnson

Luke 17:3

Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him,

Leviticus 19:17 NIV

Do not hate a fellow Israelite in your heart.
Rebuke your neighbor frankly so you will not
share in their guilt.

“Jesus not only had to die for our sins, but he had to live for our righteousness. If all Jesus did was die for our sins, that would remove all of our guilt. And that would leave us sinless in the sight of God. But not righteous. We would be innocent, but not righteous, because we hadn’t done anything to obey the law of God, which is what righteousness requires.

And so Jesus’ life of perfect obedience is just as necessary for our salvation as his perfect atonement on the cross. There’s double imputation: my sin to him, and his righteousness to me. That’s why the Scripture says that Jesus IS our righteousness.”

~ R.C. Sproul