THE SECRET OF A FISHER OF MEN



¹ "Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in-order-to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father Who is in heaven.



Righteousness - Moral conformity to God's will & character, encompassing holiness of heart & life, justice, integrity, & living in right relationship with God & others.

This Verse Transitions
From Religious Talk To
Religious Actions -

- "You've heard it said"
- "You've seen it done"

3 Religious Acts Jesus Focuses On:

- Almsgiving (Giving to Needy)
- Prayer
- Fasting

Each Time Jesus Begins With

"When You Do This..." - We Should Be!!

Matthew 5:16 - "...let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works <u>and give glory to your Father Who is in heaven</u>."

--- All About Motives - Who Gets the Glory?---

² "Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

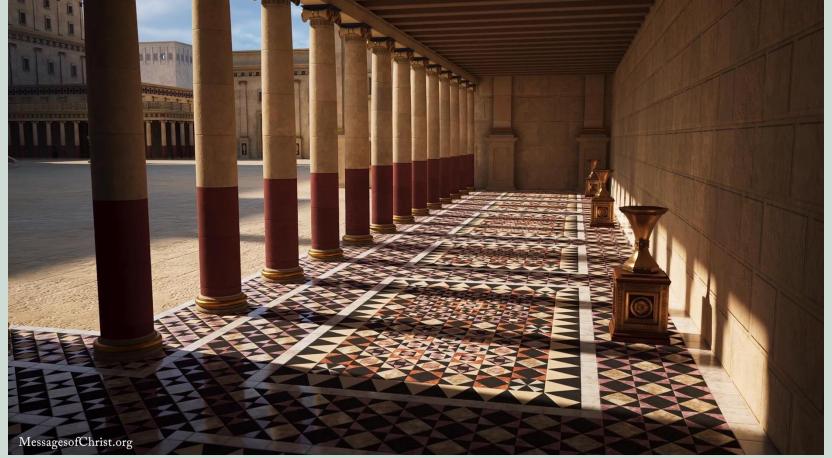
Generosity & Giving - For Applause & Attention -

- Do NOT Parade Your Piety

⁴¹Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. 42 But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. 43 Calling His disciples to Him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. 44 They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything all she had to live on."

- Mark 12:41-44





³ But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.



Hypocrites - "Two-Faced" - Used for All 3 Religious Acts

Left Hand Doesn't Know What Your Right Hand Did? No such thing as a -"One-Handed Applause"

"Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams." - 1 Samuel 15:22

(Giving, Praying, Fasting)

Giving in Secret: Giving In Privacy Kills The Temptation For Pride

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. - Colossians 3:2

"Live for the eye of God, and you will care little for the eyes of men."

- C.H. Spurgeon