

God's Important People

"And they were bringing children to Him so that He would touch them; but the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw this, He was indignant and said to them, Allow the children to come to Me; do not forbid them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it at all.' And He took them in His arms and began blessing them, laying His hands on them."
Mark 10:13-16 (NASB)

"Now He looked up and saw the wealthy putting their gifts into the temple treasury. And He saw a poor widow putting in two lepta coins. And He said, 'Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all of them; for they all contributed to the offering from their surplus; but she, from her poverty, put in all that she had to live on.'"
Luke 21:1-4 (NASB)

We all have our spiritual heroes. Some of us have heroes who were alive during our lifetime. Others like myself have heroes who lived in previous centuries. We read their books and sermons. Also, fine historians have written biographies of them for us to read and be blessed.

Our heroes are usually outstanding men and women of God who were powerful speakers, writers, and/or did great deeds that changed history. We marvel at their amazing spiritual feats. We also sometimes wish we could duplicate their wonderful lives. We may feel so inadequate, so incompetent alongside these great believers.

But, just a moment. Who are the great people in God's eyes? Who are really important to Him? Our verses give us a clue to what He looks for in His children. Simplicity of faith and sacrificial living for Him are two remarkable features of God's important people according to today's verses.

Children have faith that is not complicated by doubts. As we journey through life, we can easily gather up doubts unwittingly. Doubts just seem to appear on our horizon uninvited.

We need to give our faith a strong diet of expository sermons, spending time

memorizing biblical promises and stories of godly biblical people, reading the best of Christian books, reviewing the Lord's help in our past times of sorrow, and spending time with godly believers who have gone through deep valleys. There are more ways to feed your faith, but these form an excellent start.

So, if you are among the poor and seemingly less gifted of the Lord's children take heart! You are obviously among the more important of our heavenly Father's people.

As you contribute sacrificially to the Lord's work you do more than people who give thousands every Sunday. As you trust the Lord during times of adversity your loving heavenly Father delights in you. He is honoured by your confidence in Him. You bring glory to Him by humble submission to His sovereign will.

If you have not seen how precious you are to the Lord, read and reread the stories around today's verses. You will be enriched by the exercise. The evidence for your worth to the Master is clear.

Loved with everlasting love,
Led by grace that love to know;
Spirit, breathing from above,
Thou hast taught me it is so.

Oh, this full and perfect peace!
Oh, this transport all divine!
In a love which cannot cease,
I am His, and He is mine.

Heaven above is softer blue,
Earth around is sweeter green;
Something lives in every hue
Christless eyes have never seen:
Birds with gladder songs o'erflow,
Flow'rs with deeper beauties shine,
Since I know, as now I know,
I am His, and He is mine.

Things that once were wild alarms
Cannot now disturb my rest;
Closed in everlasting arms,
Pillowed on the loving breast.
Oh, to lie forever here,
Doubt and care and self resign,
While He whispers in my ear,
I am His, and He is mine.

His forever, only His:
Who the Lord and me shall part?
Ah, with what a rest of bliss
Christ can fill the loving heart.
Heaven and earth may fade and flee,
Firstborn light in gloom decline;
But, while God and I shall be,
I am His, and He is mine

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