

All About Me? Or All About Jesus?

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Luk 11:43 Woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye love the uppermost seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets.

Luk 11:44 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are as graves which appear not, and the men that walk over *them* are not aware *of them*.

I. Self-centeredness desires to be seen and admired

Luk 11:43 Woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye love the uppermost seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets.

A. Note: Self-centeredness can also take the shape of desiring to be seen and pitied

1Pe 4:19 Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls *to him* in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

B. The self-centered-sin of wanting to be admired centers itself in the religious

Mat 23:5 ...all their works they do for to be seen of men...

Mat 23:7 (*They love*) greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi.

Mat 23:8 But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, *even* Christ; and all ye are brethren.

Mat 23:9 And call no *man* your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.

Mat 6:5 ...thou shalt not be as the hypocrites *are*: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men.

C. Self-centeredness desires not just to be admired—But also enjoys admiring self

Luk 18:11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men *are*, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

Luk 18:12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

Mat 6:3 But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth:

D. The self that is admiring self tends to think lessons about self are for others

Mat 26:33 Peter answered and said unto him, Though all *men* shall be offended because of thee, *yet* will I never be offended.

E. Preachers who preach so they will be admired are perhaps the worst of the worst

Php 1:15 Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife...

F. People come & hear—Talk it but don't walk it—The self still only thinks of self

Eze 33:31 And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee *as* my people, and they hear thy words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they shew much love, *but* their heart goeth after their covetousness.

II. God is not pleased with our self-focused (all-about-me) pride

Pro 16:18 Pride *goeth* before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

Dan 4:30 The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?

Dan 4:31 While the word *was* in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, *saying*, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee.

Mat 23:11 But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

Mat 23:12 And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.

Mat 23:13 But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in *yourselves*, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.

Isa 57:15 ...thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name *is* Holy; I dwell in the high and holy *place*, with him also *that is* of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

III. In the whole scheme of things, I truly don't amount to much—But do I know that?

Luk 11:44 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are as graves which appear not, and the men that walk over *them* are not aware *of them*.

A. Copernicus proved that the earth is not the center of the universe

—But has it ever really soaked in that I'm not either?

B. Egocentric —to be absorbed in oneself; to feel as if others center themselves on me

C. Narcissistic —to feel gratification through admiring one's own idealized self-image

D. Thoughts on the idea that no one is really paying much attention to you

"When you're 20 you care what everyone thinks, when you're 40 you stop caring what everyone thinks, when you're 60 you realize no one was ever thinking about you in the first place." (unknown)

Studies show that 78% of our conversations involve talking about ourselves and our perceptions of the world. The number one function of conversation is so the

speaker can convey to others a lot of information about himself or herself as a person.

Bette Midler: “Enough about me, let’s talk about you. What do you think of me?”

IV. My insignificance—Few know I’m here—After a few days, none will know

I was

Ecc 1:3 What profit hath a man of all his labour which he taketh under the sun?

Ecc 1:4 *One* generation passeth away, and *another* generation cometh...

Ecc 1:11 *There is* no remembrance of former *things*...

Ecc 2:11 Then I looked on all the works that my hands had...laboured to do: and, behold, all *was* vanity and vexation of spirit, and *there was* no profit under the sun.

Ecc 2:16 For *there is* no remembrance of the wise more than of the fool for ever; seeing that which now *is* in the days to come shall all be forgotten. And how dieth the wise *man?* as the fool.

Ecc 2:17 Therefore I hated life; because the work that is wrought (*worked*) under the sun *is* grievous unto me: for all *is* vanity and vexation of spirit.

Ecc 5:15 As he came forth of his mother's womb, naked shall he return to go as he came, and shall take nothing of his labour, which he may carry away in his hand.

Ecc 5:16 And this also *is* a sore evil, *that* in all points as he came, so shall he go: and what profit hath he that hath laboured for the wind?

Ecc 8:8 *There is* no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither *hath he* power in the day of death: and *there is* no discharge in *that* war...

Ecc 9:14 *There was* a little city, and few men within it; and there came a great king against it, and besieged it, and built great bulwarks against it:

Ecc 9:15 Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city; yet no man remembered that same poor man.

Psa 103:15 *As for* man, his days *are* as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.

Psa 103:16 For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.

Psa 103:17 But the mercy of the LORD *is* from everlasting to everlasting...

V. All about me is not what helps me—All about Jesus will see me through

*When peace like a river attendeth my way—When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say—It is well, it is well, with my soul.*

*My sin, oh the bliss of this glorious thought—My sin, not in part, but the whole
Is nailed to His cross and I bear it no more—Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O
my soul*

VI. The only thing that really matters—Christ crucified and the resulting resurrection

A. The wonder of the idea of God becoming a man to die for me

Luk 9:44 Let these sayings sink down into your ears: for the Son of man shall be delivered into the hands of men.

1Co 2:2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

B. The horror of what men did (what my sins did) to my Lord and Savior

Joh 19:5 ...Behold the man!

Psa 22:16 ...they pierced my hands and my feet.

C. His inspired word expresses His thoughts & feelings (Let your spirit relate to His)

Psa 22:6 But I *am* a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people.

Psa 22:7 All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head...

Psa 22:9 But thou *art* he that took me out of the womb: thou didst make me hope *when I was* upon my mother's breasts.

Psa 22:10 I was cast upon thee from the womb: thou *art* my God from my mother's belly.

Psa 22:11 Be not far from me; for trouble *is* near; for *there is* none to help.

Psa 22:1 My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? *why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?*

D. Jesus came to save—And He saved

Mat 1:21 ...thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Joh 19:30 ...Jesus...said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

E. Jesus is resurrected—And He is coming back

Mat 28:6 He is not here: for he is risen...

Act 1:11 ...this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

F. Jesus Christ is the Successful Savior

Joh 6:38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

Joh 6:39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

Joh 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.

VII. From the worthlessness of self-centeredness to the worthwhileness of God-focused

Jer 9:23 Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise *man* glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty *man* glory in his might, let not the rich *man* glory in his riches:

Jer 9:24 But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I *am* the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these *things* I delight, saith the LORD.

Gal 6:14 But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me (*in a sense, dead unto me; but also cursed, despised & contemptible unto me*), and I unto the world.

1Co 1:31 That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.