

Yea God; You Are Partial to Rebels & Rednecks

(Discovering how God measures greatness and judges beauty)

(SERIES: Yea God!; 05 of 08)

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“Be beautiful inside, in your hearts, with the lasting charm of a gentle and quiet spirit that is so precious to God.” (1 Pet 3:4)

What we value

We value knowledge for **pride sake**.

“Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge.” (1 Cor 8)

We value experience for **boasting sake**.

“I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know--God knows. . . . I will boast about a man like that, but I will not boast about myself, except about my weaknesses.” (2 Cor 12:2-5)

We value rules for **control sake**.

“Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, instruction about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. And God permitting, we will do so.” (Heb 6:1-3)

What God values

God values **a seeking heart**.

“The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.” (Psa 34:18)

“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.” (Psa 51:17)

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me . . .” (Psa 51:10-13)

God values **a wise mind**.

“If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.” (James 1:5-8)

God values **a humble spirit**.

“Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?” declares the LORD. ‘***This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word.***’ (Isa 66:2)

What do you really want?

I want **the burden gone forever**.

“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, (Rom 8:1)

I want **what I’m going through worth it**.

I want **a bright & expanding future**.

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade--kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.” (1 Pet 1:3-5)