

Is Your House In Order?

Many of us must be truthful with ourselves and realize our homes may never make the front page of the popular magazine, "Good Housekeeping." No matter how much we would like to have one of those types of homes featured on Home and Garden Television, a busy life filled with work, kids and pets makes for a less than picture perfect scene. Certainly we want to take care of our belongings and keep them in tip-top shape, but is this most important in our homes? What is it that drives one to present their home in a magazine style motif? Is it not the appealing aspect to the occasional guest who drops by for a visit?

Jesus was an occasional guest once. We find the event unfolding in Luke chapter 7. Here the elders of the Jews plead the Savior to visit the home of a Roman Centurion and heal his dear servant. They tell Jesus that the Centurion is favorable toward the Jews and Jesus agrees to go. In Luke 7:6, we observe the Centurion sending friends to meet Jesus and tell Him that he was not worthy of Jesus visiting him.

Do you suppose that his was because his house just wasn't presentable? At our home, we have the Visitor Alert System. Threat level 4 is when a coming visitor is within a 20 mile radius. That lets us know that we have approximately 20 min to throw stuff in a closet and dust everything. However, this wasn't the reason for the Centurion's actions. It wasn't that he was worried about how presentable his house looked, but rather the status of his soul. The man says that he thought himself not even worthy to come to Jesus himself and sent his friends.

Therein lies our consideration of the question. Is your house in order? The Lord doesn't care what material items you possess or the appealing aspect to the human eye. The eye of the Lord views into the spiritual status of your home. Because of the Centurion's submission to the Lord, setting aside his personal pride and exalting the Savior above himself, Jesus responds, "I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!" (Lk. 7:9). Let's consider again our own homes. If Jesus was traveling our way, would we have to hide the music and movies which are not godly? Would we have to dust off the old Bible and lay it out in the open to look like it is continually used? Would we have to put the revealing and immodest clothes to the back of the closet? Would we have to hide perhaps the alcohol in our refrigerators? Would we do these things to make ourselves and homes more presentable to Jesus? Or, would our great faith precede us to the Lord?

Friend, I have some news for you, "Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable." (Heb. 4:13). He already is aware of these things if they are in your homes. Is it time to possibly do some house cleaning?

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