**Mindful Of The Things Of God**

***MARK (8:31-33) 31And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.32And he spake that saying openly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him.33But when he had turned about and looked on his disciples, he rebuked Peter, saying, Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savourest (MINDFUL) not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men.***

**INTRODUCTION**

1. As Jesus travelled near Caesarea Philippi, He made predictions concerning what awaited Him in Jerusalem... –

[**Mk 8:31**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mk%208.31)[**Mk 9:31**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mk%209.31)**; MK** [**10:33-34**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mk%2010.33-34)

1. He must suffer many things, scorned, laughed at, ridiculed, spit at,

 accused, smacked in the face, mocked, tried as a murderer. etc, etc.

 b. then He must be rejected and killed, and rise again in three days

2. When Peter heard all these things his response was a very adamant one...

1. He took Jesus aside and began to rebuke Him...

 b. Peter's words: "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen

 to You!"

The next thing that happened is a lesson for all of us……

3. Jesus looked at His disciples and then rebuked Peter...

1. "Get behind Me, Satan! And then makes the following

statement…………………..***For you are not mindful of the things of***

 ***God, but the things of men.***" - [**Mk 8:33**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mk%208.33)

It is believed by many that Peter's outburst of concern for Jesus was only natural.

Beloved, Jesus' rebuke reveals an important lesson not just to Peter or his disciples but to all of us and how we must become ….

**"Mindful Of The Things Of** **God."**

Tonight we want to learn a few lessons in being **“Mindful of the things of God!”**

First on my list is the following…..

1. **What Peter and many of God’s children fail to understand this…**

**GOD'S WAYS ARE NOT OUR WAYS**

1. **WE ARE SHOWN IN THE BIBLE….Isaiah 55:8**

 1. **"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My**

 **ways" "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways**

 **higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts."**

1. **4-IMPTORTANT THINGS THAT JESUS ILLUSTRATED TO ALL OF US…...**
2. **His view of suffering in the work of redemption**

***Lk 24:26 26Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?***

1. **By His view of greatness versus ours –**

[**Mk 10:42-45**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mk%2010.42-45)**…*42But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them.43But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister:44And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all.45For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.***

***BELOVED WE ARE ALL SERVANTS OF ONE ANOTHER! ANYONE CAN BE A GREAT LEADER IN THE WORLD BUT TO BE A LEADER IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD YOU MUST FIRST BE A SERVANT TO ALL! THIS IS NOT ABOUT A POPULARITY CONTEST, THIS IS ABOUT SERVING CHRIST IN THE LOWEST ESTATE! A SERVANT OF ALL!! ANYONE WANTS TO BE POPULAR THE WORLD HAS PLENTY TO OFFER!***

 **3. His view of beauty versus what we consider beauty..**

[***1Pe 3:3-4***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Pe%203.3-4)***3Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel;4But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.***

***A MEEK AND QUIET SPIRIT WHICH IS IN THE SIGHT OF GOD OF A GREAT PRICE!***

***IT’S NOT ABOUT HOW WELL OR HOW HOLY ANYONE LOOKS IN THE PRESENCE OF OTHERS ! ITS ABOUT A QUIET AND MEEK SPIRIT!!!***

1. **His view of money versus ours –**

**Lk 16:13…*13No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.***

**[Clearly the mind of God and the things of God come from a higher plane**

**than the mind of man. Peter failed to appreciate this.**

**With this in mind How then can we be sure that we are forever**

 **"Mindful Of The Things Of God"...?**]

1. **WE CANNOT TRUST OURSELVES...especially in the following areas….**

 **1. Led by Our feelings**

 a. Our feelings often tell us the difference between right and

 wrong.

 1) Many people go by whatever **"feels right"**

 2) Many also put their trust in a religion

 **"better felt than told" or “better safe than sorry!**

 b. Beloved, the Bible declares the danger of trusting in our

 feelings

 1) ***"There is a way which seems right to a man, But its end***

 ***is the way of death."*** - [**Pr 14:12**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Pr%2014.12)

 2) ***"He who trusts in his own heart is a fool..." -*** [***Pr 28:26***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Pr%2028.26)

 **2. Our conscience**

 a. "Let your conscience be your guide" is the motto of many

 today!

 b. But we need to consider the following:

 ***"O Lord, I know the way of man is not in himself; It is not in***

 ***man who walks to direct his own steps." -*** [**Jer 10:23**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Jer%2010.23)

1. Beloved, Our conscience is not always a reliable source!

 1) Paul had served God with a good conscience throughout his

 life –

[***Ac 23:1***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ac%2023.1) ***And Paul, earnestly beholding the council, said, Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day.***

 2) Even at a time when he was persecuting Christians! **But his**

 **zeal got the best of Him!!!**

[**Ac 26:9-11**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ac%2026.9-11)***: 9I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.10Which thing I also did in Jerusalem: and many of the saints did I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them.11And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled them to blaspheme; and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted them even unto strange cities.***

***Bretheren, Paul’s conscience was actually destroying him in his spirit man thinking he was actually doing what he felt was right in the eyes of God!!***

***I pray this is a strong warning to many….Don’t let your conscience destroy you, thinking that what you are doing in the cause of Christ is the right thing!! Cause if you are not careful your conscience can destroy your fellowship with Christ!***

 3. **Our wisdom**

 a. Many feel that through their own wisdom they can determine

 right and wrong

 b. God has chosen to save man in a manner designed to confound

 the wise - [**1Co 1:18-29**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Co%201.18-29)

 c. For us to know God's will, it was necessary for Him to

 reveal it to us - [**1Co 2:9-12**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Co%202.9-12)

 1) This He has done through His Spirit-inspired apostles

 2) Who in turn shared it with us through their writings –

[**Ep 3:1-5**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ep%203.1-5)

 **B. WE MUST TRUST IN GOD...**

 1. In how to be saved

 a. Some seek to be saved by good works

 b. Others by faith only

 c. We must trust in Jesus and His apostles –

[**Mk 16:15-16**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mk%2016.15-16)**;**

 **2. In how to worship**

 a. Some want to offer to God what pleases them!

 b. Others want to offer to God what pleases others!

 c. We must trust in the commands and will of the Lord –

[**Mk 7:6-7**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mk%207.6-7)**,**[**9**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mk%207.9)**;** [**Col 3:17**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Col%203.17)

 **3. In how to live**

 a. Some want to make themselves #1

 b. Others want to make work or family #1

 c. We must trust Jesus and the Word of God –

[**Mt 6:33**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%206.33)**;**

**The CONCLUSION of this Teaching…..**

1. We can only be **"Mindful Of The Things Of God"** when we...

 a. Humbly submit to what is revealed in the Word of God

 b. Refuse to let our feelings, conscience, or wisdom be our guide

2. Otherwise, we are **"Mindful Of The Things Of Men"**, where we...

 a. Become an instrument of Satan!

 b. Become an offense to Jesus!

Have you given much thought as to whether you are **"Mindful Of The Things**

**Of God"**...?

 **"If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are**

 **above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your**

 **mind on things above, not on things on the earth." -** [**Col 3:1-2**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Col%203.1-2)

 **"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the**

 **renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and**

 **acceptable and perfect will of God." -** [**Ro 12:2**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ro%2012.2)