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PRIORITIES

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The King of Kings commands us to examine our priorities and retain only the Godly ones. Our priorities must be exclusive (Matt. 6:24). Elsewhere wavering loyalties are exposed (James 1:6; II Tim. 4:10). For a rewarding relationship, we must serve God and Him only (Matt. 6:24; Mark 12:30-31).

We must embrace three priorities. We must seek to enter the kingdom of God (Matt. 6:33; Acts 2:38f; Col. 1:13). We must seek to live in the righteousness of God (Matt. 6:33; Gal. 2:20; Phil. 3:9). We must seek to sustain our trust in God (Matt. 6:33; 27:43; Prov. 3:5; II Cor. 5:7). These are essential to receive His blessing.

Pursuing these priorities brings success. We can state good priorities without pursuing them. We must “pursue” these to have God Bless us.

As individuals we need to examine our hearts and lives. Are we pursuing priorities which keep us spiritual (Col. 3:1-17)? Are we seeking truth and what it means for our lives and our beliefs (John 8:32; Prov. 23:23; Rom. 2:8)? Are we committed to fully obeying his commands (Matt. 7:21 FF)? Are we working in our place in the body of Christ (I Cor. 12:18; cf. Heb. 5:12-14)? Are we making our calling and election sure II Peter 1:10)? These fundamental priorities are mandatory for every Christian.

As congregations, we need to examine our priorities. Are we allowing God’s teaching government to stabilize our souls (Eph. 4:11-16)? Are we increasing the body (Eph. 4:11-16)? Are we guarding our candlesticks (Rev. 2:5; I Peter 5:9; Acts 20:28ff)? The loyal pursuit of these will stop apostasy in its tracks. Ultimately—they lead to heaven!

We often sing “My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness.” I must relentlessly pursue that righteousness to gain the hope of

the upward call (Phil. 3:14). Every Christian is here to be about our Father's business (cp. Luke 2:49). Are we?