

THE BUSINESS OF BOASTING

Jeremiah 9:23-24

What type of boasting does God desire?

I. THE PRACTICE OF BOASTING

A. THE TOPIC: “Halal”

1. To “boast” or “glory” is to
 - a. Demonstrate lively emotion
 - b. Shout acclamations (hallelujah)
 - c. Show excitement
2. Such an activity is not condemned

B. THE TECHNIQUE

1. It is self-initiated
2. It is intensive and therefore emotive
3. It is directed
 - There is an object upon which one’s devotion and/or admiration rests

C. THE TRUTH

1. What do we celebrate?
2. What excites us?
3. What do we talk about?
4. What makes us shout?

II. PROHIBITED BOASTING (23)

A. THE REGULATIONS

1. Glory not in wisdom
2. Glory not in might
3. Glory not in wealth

B. THE RATIONALE

1. We sense that with sufficient amounts of these three, if one fails we can use the others to compensate
2. Example: If we can’t outwit the enemy (wisdom) may we can outrun them (might), and if that doesn’t work perhaps we can buy them off (wealth)

Over please >

C. THE REALITY

- We're inclined to overvalue the things we possess

1. All of these are man-focused
2. All of these are temporal
3. All of these are untrustworthy > They cannot save us from ruin

III. **PROPER BOASTING** (24)

A. KNOWING GOD CORRECTLY

1. Theologically: Understanding God
 - An informed insight into who God truly is
2. Personally: Knowing God
 - a. A relationship that is intimate
 - b. A fellowship that is enjoyable

B. KNOWING GOD CHARACTERISTICALLY

1. His Activity: He exercises
 - a. He is involved in doing things
 - b. He is engaged with His creation
2. His Attributes: He expresses ...
 - a. Lovingkindness: A loyal and steadfast love
 - b. Justice: Rightly ruling and putting all things in order
 - c. Righteousness
 - 1) He is reliable, truthful and honest - See Titus 1:2
 - 2) He is creating, defining and maintaining morality
3. His Attitude: Delighting in these things

CONCLUSION: Psalm 105:1-5

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