



- Up Words # 19

FATHER AWARDS



Men love fame and acclaim. Performers are praised and presented with plaques and parchments. There are the Tony awards, the Academy awards, the People's Choice awards and the Dove awards; just to name a few. But, shouldn't there be a "Father's award? Producing a godly child is certainly far more difficult that producing a good song or show.

Who would God award? What type of person receives God's "Man-of-the-Year" award? Note God's answer from Jeremiah 9:23-24. "Thus says the LORD, "Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord who exercises lovingkindness, justice and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things," declares the Lord."

Being smart, strong or rich gives us no standing or merit in God's eyes. God says He delights in the those who understand and know Him. The understanding man is one who pays close attention to the details of God's instructions and does them with wholehearted devotion. The man who knows God is intimately acquainted with His will and ways.

What kind of man wins God's approval and receives His accolades? Genesis 18:19 provides insight into another quality God considers for "Father's Award" credentials. God said that He knew Abraham and that he would command his children and household workers to "to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice" God offers principles and precepts that encourage fathers to direct their children toward godliness. It seems that the Heavenly Father is aware and awarding human fathers who seek to produce holy children.

The fathers God considers winners are those who make it their goal to understand His character (Jeremiah 9:23-24) and then teach their children godly conduct (Genesis 18:19). How are you doing dad? Do you know God personally and intimately? Are you teaching His ways to those around you? Might all of us who bear the name "father" be winners as we know God better and wisely teach His will and ways to those around us.

Looking Up!

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