

Countenance – Offering Time pt. 2

Countenance – refers to a person’s face or facial expression, serving as a direct reflection of their inner emotions, character, or spiritual state.

- The first time the word countenance was mentioned, is when Cain offering didn’t get accepted by God and his countenance has fallen because he was mad
- The first time evil made its introduction was during offering time
- Remember the bible says that the love of money is the root of all evil
- I believe God didn’t accept Cain offering because he saw his heart when he gave it
- God still looks at our heart during offering time

(Mark 12:41-44 nlt)

⁴¹ Jesus sat down near the collection box in the Temple and watched as the crowds dropped in their money. Many rich people put in large amounts. ⁴² Then a poor widow came and dropped in two small coins.^[1]

⁴³ Jesus called his disciples to him and said, “I tell you the truth, this poor widow has given more than all the others who are making contributions. ⁴⁴ For they gave a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she had to live on.”

- The only way Jesus would of know she was a widow and gave everything she had to live on, is if he saw her heart
- Remember man looks at the outward appearance but God looks at the heart
- Anger is first mention with Cain because his offering didn’t get accept and that anger led him to kill his brother Abel
- Scriptures also tells us that God loves a cheerful giver, and we must decide in our hearts what to give.

- When you have an attitude of gratitude and give willingly, your giving will be accepted and blessed

(2 Corinthians 9:6-15 NLT)

⁶Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. ⁷You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."^[c]⁸ And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. ⁹As the Scriptures say,

**"They share freely and give generously to the poor.
Their good deeds will be remembered forever."^[d]**

¹⁰For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity^[e] in you.

¹¹Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God. ¹²So two good things will result from this ministry of giving—the needs of the believers in Jerusalem^[f] will be met, and they will joyfully express their thanks to God.

¹³As a result of your ministry, they will give glory to God. For your generosity to them and to all believers will prove that you are obedient to the Good News of Christ. ¹⁴And they will pray for you with deep affection because of the overflowing grace God has given to you. ¹⁵Thank God for this gift^[g] too wonderful for words!

- For God so loved the world that he gave, if you have the love of the father then you also would be a giver and have compassion on those in need

(1 John 3:11-17 nlt)

¹¹ This is the message you have heard from the beginning: We should love one another. ¹² We must not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and killed his brother. And why did he kill him? Because Cain had been doing what was evil, and his brother had been doing what was righteous. ¹³ So don't be surprised, dear brothers and sisters, ^[c] if the world hates you.

¹⁴ If we love our brothers and sisters who are believers, ^[d] it proves that we have passed from death to life. But a person who has no love is still dead. ¹⁵ Anyone who hates another brother or sister ^[e] is really a murderer at heart. And you know that murderers don't have eternal life within them.

¹⁶ We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister ^[f] in need but shows no compassion—how can God's love be in that person?

- A tree is known by its fruit just like a man is known by his heart if he is a good man

(Luke 6:43-45 nlt)

⁴³ “A good tree can't produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can't produce good fruit. ⁴⁴ A tree is identified by its fruit. Figs are never gathered from thornbushes, and grapes are not picked from bramble bushes. ⁴⁵ A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart. What you say flows from what is in your heart.

- Scriptures teaches us to store up treasures in heaven. Wherever your treasure is there the desires of your heart will be also

(Matthew 6:19-21 nkjv)

¹⁹ “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

- Scriptures tells us to honor the Lord with our wealth

(Proverbs 3:9-10 nlt)

Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. ¹⁰ Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.

- God is the same yesterday, today and forever more. The Lord doesn't change
- If we are the seed of Abraham and all the families on earth are blessed through him. one way we can honor God with our wealth is bringing him our tithes or tenth just like Abraham did

(Malachi 3:6-12 nlt)

⁶“I am the Lord, and I do not change. That is why you descendants of Jacob are not already destroyed. ⁷ Ever since the days of your ancestors, you have scorned my decrees and failed to obey them. Now return to me, and I will return to you,” says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies.

“But you ask, ‘How can we return when we have never gone away?’

⁸“Should people cheat God? Yet you have cheated me!

“But you ask, ‘What do you mean? When did we ever cheat you?’

“You have cheated me of the tithes and offerings due to me. ⁹ You are under a curse, for your whole nation has been cheating me. ¹⁰ Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do,” says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies, “I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won’t have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!¹¹ Your crops will be abundant, for I will guard them from insects and disease.^[a] Your grapes will not fall from the vine before they are ripe,” says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies. ¹² “Then all nations will call you blessed, for your land will be such a delight,” says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies.

- Giving is a ministry and God loves a cheerful giver. Let’s not only excel in our faith, knowledge and love but let us also excel in our giving

(2 Corinthians 8:6-7 nlt)

⁶So we have urged Titus, who encouraged your giving in the first place, to return to you and encourage you to finish this ministry of giving. ⁷Since you excel in so many ways—in your faith, your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love from us^[c]—I want you to excel also in this gracious act of giving.

- Jesus said it is more blessed to give than to receive (**Acts 20:35**)
- If you're living blessed life and you're not lacking nothing. remember it was God one who give you the ability to produce wealth.

(Deuteronomy 8:11-18 nkjv)

¹¹ “Beware that you do not forget the Lord your God by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes which I command you today, ¹² lest—*when* you have eaten and are ^[e]full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell *in them*; ¹³ and *when* your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are ^[f]multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied; ¹⁴ when your heart ^[g]is lifted up, and you forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; ¹⁵ who led you through that great and terrible wilderness, *in which* were fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty land where there was no water; who brought water for you out of the flinty rock; ¹⁶ who fed you in the wilderness with manna, which your fathers did not know, that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do you good in the end— ¹⁷ then you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth.’

¹⁸ “And you shall remember the Lord your God, for *it is* He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may ^[h]establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as *it is* this day.

SIDENOTE: it’s wicked to borrow and never pay back

(Psalms 37:21 nlt)

The wicked borrow and never repay, but the godly are generous givers.