

**Devotional Thoughts :: The Great Taskmaster, Self -Tozer**

The Great Taskmaster, Self -Tozer - posted by Forevidence (), on: 2006/4/12 10:49

[Image: <https://www.sermonindex.net/images/tozerdev.gif>]

The Great Taskmaster, Self

They to whom the Word comes in power know this deliverance, this inward migration of the soul from slavery to freedom, this release from moral bondage. They know in experience a radical shift in position, a real crossing over, and they stand consciously on another soil under another sky and breathe another air. Their life motives are changed and their inward drives made new.

What are these old drives that once forced obedience at the end of a lash? What but little taskmasters, servants of the great taskmaster, Self, who stand before him and do his will? To name them all would require a book in itself, but we would point out one as a type or sample of the rest. It is the desire for social approval. This is not bad in itself and might be perfectly innocent if we were living in a sinless world, but since the race of men has fallen off from God and joined itself to His foes, to be a friend of the world is to be a collaborator with evil and an enemy of God. Still the desire to please men is back of all social acts from the highest civilizations to the lowest levels upon which human life is found. No one can escape it. The outlaw who flouts the rules of society and the philosopher who rises in thought above its common ways may seem to have escaped from the snare, but they have in reality merely narrowed the circle of those they desire to please. The outlaw has his pals before whom he seeks to shine; the philosopher his little coterie of superior thinkers whose approval is necessary to his happiness. For both, the motive-root remains uncut. Each draws his peace from the thought that he enjoys the esteem of his fellows, though each will interpret the whole business in his own way.

Prayer

Let our desire for approval be for Your approval, Lord.

For more info: (<http://www.cmalliance.org/devotions/tozer/tozer.jsp>) <http://www.cmalliance.org/devotions/tozer/tozer.jsp>

Re: The Great Taskmaster, Self -Tozer - posted by DomSpencer (), on: 2006/4/12 11:15

Yes! Another bucket of cool clear water from the God-blessed well that is (was) AW Tozer! What a meditation and what a challenge! The question is not "am I seeking to please others?", but "who is it I am seeking to please, other than God?"

I must confess to being shot through with such unholy bondage to people-pleasing: held down like Gulliver by these evil goblins of fear. How different it would be if I could see the angels at my side, and the Glory of the Holy Spirit's anointing in my bathroom mirror! So let my eyes be open Lord to the Truth of Your Presence within me, and the insignificance of every minion of darkness when compared to you. Let me live to You only, and allow You to manifest Yourself to those around me, bringing Your life, love and salvation to all You bring into my life.

Let it be so, Lord, at whatever cost!

Dom Spencer