

ESTEEM, ESTEEMED, ESTEEMETH, ESTEEMING

The plagues God sent upon Egypt caused Moses to be highly **esteemed** among the Egyptians.

- **Exodus 11:3:** "And the LORD gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's servants, and in the sight of the people."

In the song that Moses taught the Israelites right before he died, Moses said that when the Israelites were full and had grown fat (in the promised land) they would lightly **esteem** God. (That's exactly what happened.)

- **Deuteronomy 32:15:** "But Jeshurun waxed fat, and kicked: thou art waxen fat, thou art grown thick, thou art covered with fatness; then he forsook God which made him, and lightly esteemed the Rock of his salvation."

God said that He would lightly **esteem** those who despised Him.

- **1 Samuel 2:30:** "Wherefore the LORD God of Israel saith, I said indeed that thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before me for ever: but now the LORD saith, Be it far from me; for them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed."

When the servants of Saul told David that he should become the king's son-in-law, David said that he was lightly **esteemed**.

(That was a lie. The whole nation loved him because he had killed Goliath and was a powerful military leader)

- **1 Samuel 18:23:** "And Saul's servants spake those words in the ears of David. And David said, Seemeth it to you a light thing to be a king's son in law, seeing that I am a poor man, and lightly esteemed?"

Job said that he greatly **esteemed** the words of God.

- **Job 23:12:** "Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food."

Elihu said that God doesn't **esteem** strength.

- **Job 36:19:** "Will he esteem thy riches? no, not gold, nor all the forces of strength."

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We must highly **esteem** and value the words of God. They should be sweet to us.

- **Psalms 119:103:** "How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!"

The psalmist said that he **esteemed** God's precepts.

- **Psalms 119:128:** "Therefore I esteem all thy precepts

concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way."

God didn't **esteem** the people who were trying to hide from Him and turn the rightful order of things upside down.

- **Isaiah 29:15-16:** "Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the Lord, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? and who knoweth us? Surely your turning of things upside down shall be esteemed as the potter's clay: for shall the work say of him that made it, He made me not? or shall the thing framed say of him that framed it, He had no understanding?"

God said the days were coming when the fruitful field would be **esteemed** as a forest.

- **Isaiah 29:17:** "Is it not yet a very little while, and Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be esteemed as a forest?"

Isaiah prophesied that people wouldn't **esteem** the Messiah. Instead He would be despised and rejected.

- **Isaiah 53:3:** "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not."

When God judged Jerusalem in the days of Nebuchadnezzar, the Jews were no longer highly **esteemed**. Instead of being

compared to gold they were compared to pots made of dirt.

- **Lamentations 4:2:** "The precious sons of Zion, comparable to fine gold, how are they esteemed as earthen pitchers, the work of the hands of the potter!"

After the Jews were exiled to Babylon they were reproached by the nations. They were no longer held in high **esteem**, but instead were despised.

- **Daniel 9:16:** "O LORD, according to all thy righteousness, I beseech thee, let thine anger and thy fury be turned away from thy city Jerusalem, thy holy mountain: because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and thy people are become a reproach to all that are about us."

In the ancient world, sparrows weren't highly **esteemed**. (Yet God sees them and cares about them.)

- **Matthew 10:29:** "Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father."

Thirty pieces of silver was said to be how much the children of Israel valued their Messiah. (In other words, the Jews didn't highly **esteem** Jesus. Instead they despised Him.)

- **Matthew 27:9:** "Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him that was valued, whom they of the children of Israel did value;"

The centurion highly **esteemed** Jesus.

- **Luke 7:6:** "Then Jesus went with them. And when he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying unto him, Lord, trouble not thyself: for I am not worthy that thou shouldest enter under my roof:"

We must not seek after the things that are highly **esteemed** by the world, because they're an abomination to God.

- **Luke 16:15:** "And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God."

God has chosen to work through things which this world holds in very low **esteem**.

- **1 Corinthians 1:28:** "And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:"

It's better to have a dispute settled by the least **esteemed** person in the church than to go before an unjust and wicked judge.

- **1 Corinthians 6:1, 4:** "Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints? ... If then ye have judgments of things pertaining to this life, set them to judge who are least esteemed in the church."

Christians must **esteem** others as being better than

themselves.

- **Philippians 2:3:** "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves."

Paul commanded the Philippian church to hold Epaphroditus in **esteem**. (This was because when the Philippian church failed to meet Paul's needs, Epaphroditus stepped in to help and it nearly killed him.)

- **Philippians 2:25, 28-30:** "Yet I supposed it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants. ... I sent him therefore the more carefully, that, when ye see him again, ye may rejoice, and that I may be the less sorrowful. Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness; and hold such in reputation: Because for the work of Christ he was nigh unto death, not regarding his life, to supply your lack of service toward me."

The reason Christians must **esteem** those who have authority over the church, and love them, is for the sake of their work.

- **1 Thessalonians 5:12-13:** "And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves."