

# “God’s Value System”

## By Brother Parrish Lee

### Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015

Isn't it wonderful just to know that you come to the house of the Lord and you present yourself to a God who can answer you, who can fill you, who can bless you? I shall not be, I shall not be moved/Just like a tree that's planed by the waters (from Psalms Chapter 1)/I shall not be moved. Why? Because I done found something that I don't want to let go. Majestic. Oh Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name...? And thank You, thank You, thank you, thank You, thank You, thank you, thank You. Here I am, Lord, to worship, and amazing love. It's so incredible; most of the message has already been preached, so it won't be as long today. Amazing—what's so funny? Amazing love; amazing love. How can it be that You, my King, would die for me? I got to thinking about my King, and my King actually died for me. When do you ever hear about that? My King came and died for me. What a mighty God we serve. Angels bow before Him. I've got a picture—I don't know about everybody else, but I've got a picture of the realm of Heaven itself the angels—all of them—all at once bow before Him. Down here, Heaven and earth, we all, with one voice, adore Him. What a mighty God we serve. And then, because of Your love. What an amazing God we serve. What an amazing God we serve. I mean, a god who is just awesome! Rules all Heaven; moves things in your heart, moves things in your life. You come in one way, and God blesses you; and you can't leave—you might come as you are, but you don't leave the way you came, not when you interact with God. He never runs out. If anything, he has to throttle it down, because, too much of a blessing, how much can we really handle? I'm just saying.

We took this month that we would have, for our theme for the month is God's Value System. That could be so encompassing. Brother Andy Giebler and myself, we talk about things, and we pray, as is always, that it's a blessing for all of us.

Having said that, giving honor to that same God that we revere and that we extoll, and that we exalt, Who is above all, through all, and, the Bible says, in you all. We give honor to that same God who is both our Lord and master, Savior, the One that we take everything to, Who hears every prayer we pray, and is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think. That God. Giving honor to Him. Giving honor to those who have gone before us: Our founding pastor, he and his family; our pastor, he and his family; to all those who have stood in the gap to make up the hedge; and giving honor to God for all of you, who present yourselves before the Holy, one true and wise God.

As you can see, our Scripture for today is:

**Jeremiah 9:24** *But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth Me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.*

If you could bow your heads for just a moment. Lord, we come before You and sometimes we are just speechless before Your Holy presence, because, Lord, we have found that there is truly none like You. We thank You for a time when You pour out Your Spirit to make connection with us, to bless us, that we might enter into Your courts with praise, and into Your gates with thanksgiving. Yes, Lord, we thank You for the blessing of our worship time, that we worship, and we ask for two things, here, God: We ask, first of all, for a blessing on those with physical ailments. We want to bring them before You, and, yes, God, we've had prayer already, but we are Your children, Lord, and we bring everything to You. We bring Pam Thomas to You who was diagnosed with cancer, Lord. Our sister, Michelle, Lord. Our brother who has kidney stones. We bring everyone who has a need before You right now in Jesus' name, that You

would have Your will, and let people be amazed at Your power, God. Let them be amazed at how Your Spirit moves and how You pour it out. Let them ask about, not so much us, but this God who is able to do these things. We present them before You and ask in Jesus' name. And, Lord, we ask for a blessing on the reading of Your Word as we go over the verses, and the Scriptures, and, please, God, let me be out of the way and let Your Word minister, as You said in Your Word, that it will accomplish that to which You sent it and will not return unto You void, to feed Your people, to feed them with both knowledge and understanding so that we can be what You have called us, asked us, and determined for us to be. So we thank You, and present ourselves and claim this all in Jesus' name, and everyone said amen. Amen.

What a beautiful time to come into God's house this morning. I'm a little excited. I'm a little excited. All of you guys got up here and were worshipping, and all could see was pictures and visions. Anybody else in here God's been talking to, giving you dreams or visions, just moving you, maybe you're in your car, and God is just—you know He's doing something with you? You don't have to have a crowd around; you ain't got to have somebody there with you, God is doing something with you. Anybody else here can say, "Yeah, God, I been kind of feeling that; God is doing something with me?"

**Jeremiah 9:24** *But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth Me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.*

"...In these things I delight..." Delight. So, the Lord says, "But let him that glorieth glory in this..." Glory, here, means to shine, or to celebrate, or to laud. If you're going to make a big deal about something, if it's going to shine, if you're going to celebrate something, God says, "Celebrate that you understand and you know Me, if you're really going to take this thing to the hilt." Then He says, "...understandeth..." Understandeth, here, specifically means to be circumspect. To be circumspect, which means be careful to consider all the circumstances and all the possible consequences. To be circumspect, it also means to instruct and to teach and to have wisdom with. "...Understandeth and knoweth..." And knoweth. And knoweth. And knoweth, here, means to acknowledge, to be aware of, and also to delight in. To delight in, and to declare. "...That he understandeth and knoweth Me..." That he's circumspect about this, and that he declares it; that he delights in it. And He says, in the last part, "...for in these things..." For in these things, when you do those things, the Lord says, "I delight in them. I like it when you do that. I delight in it." And delight here means to be pleased with, or to like, and you know what it also means? "These things move Me." These things move the Lord; ain't that something? "These things I'm pleased with and I like, and these are the things that *move* Me." Mmm-mmm-mmm.

When I was looking through the encyclopedia, yes, the paper encyclopedia; whoever heard of that with the internet out here and all? The paper encyclopedia, in the paper encyclopedia it had a ruler, and it had a picture. It really needed to have a picture, because it said that the standard for rulers is actually in the government. They hold the standard for a ruler, because, because, somebody could say, "Hey, I need something about twelve feet." "Well, my foot's about yea big, so it's twelve of those." But, you go over to somebody else, and they say, "Oh, you've got small feet. My foot is like this, and, so twelve of these..." You got one guy with twelve of these, and another guy with twelve of these; where is the standard? Where is the true value? They have to have it, so that all the other rulers know what the true measurement is.

Once, we have—this goes along with God's Value System—once I was a work... I work at a wonderful company; I'm very blessed. God's blessed me with a wonderful job that's kept me, food on the table and a roof over my head, for umpteen years. Thank You, Lord God, because You alone can do these things. We had an expansion in the building. We were being successful, and they decided it: It was a pretty expensive expansion. In this expansion—it was somewhere around forty million dollars—but in this expansion, they had a room where they were going to be making product; the things that we produce.

I saw the room, and I walked up to it, and, as I was walking up to it, the plant manager was also walking up to it, and he looked into the room, and I looked into the room, and I realized that we see different things. Whereas he would see marketing, and production, and he would see cost analyses, and he would see depreciation over a period of time, and he would see workers and compensation; he would see all that. I'm a technician, so I would see the wires in the wall, and I would understand that the air flow through pipes and the airflow through duct systems, and I would see the way that the floor was, and the pitch of the ceiling, and the airflow, how it would take things; what I was going to have to do to be successful at my job. As I was standing next to him, I had to turn to him and say, "You know what? You and I may be standing on the same spot, we may be looking into the same room, but we see different things." I thought that was a kind of clever analysis; being a technician, I thought I was being kind of clever about that. He said, "Yes, but as long as we see the same goal." Because, the standard here is the common goal. You might have a lot of different parts, but the common goal is what we all have to be working towards, here. We all have value systems in this life; we all do. We all have value systems, and they're formed by environment, and they're formed by cultures, and they're formed by personal preferences. It's really, really interesting, whenever you see somebody taken out of one area, or environment with all their value systems and it worked fine in here, and they're transported or transplanted to another place where they have to learn or adapt or find out how to work with a whole different value system. I think this is none more evident than the military. You might have come from one thing, and you get transplanted, and, any of you who have ever been in the service, you realize that. I had to learn a new value system when I got off the plane. Because they talk to you—if you flew there or drove there or had a bus there—once you disembark, they taught you a different value system. A different value system. What you had to learn is whose value system is going to supersede whose. Yes, yes, and you realize, "Well, I signed the paper, so theirs supersedes mine. Parents, also, they see this same thing. You know, parents, they rear their kids, and they instill in them a certain value system, and, as they do, they expect those things to be upkept. Then, you know, as the case becomes, sometimes, outside influences, and other people or other things try to teach them a different value system. Usually, usually, depending on what they are trying to teach them, the parents have to come in and do some corrections. For example, somebody may say, "Oh, my mom and dad, they let me get away with anything I do; I can talk to them any old way I want, blah, blah, blah." Maybe a child, I remember once myself, trying to take that value system and take it to my house. I had to learn a whole different manner of correction, as I had to learn to talk differently, as my mom had to rearrange my speech. Letting me know, "That value system ain't working in this house. In this house, this value system works, where you respect your parents, where you listen to what they tell you. That I the value system that works here." It's also important to realize rarely do you ever find—and I myself have never found—you hardly ever find two people having the same value system. You hardly ever—I've never seen it. So, what has to happen is, two people, or groups, they come together, and they have to make some sort of, as you share your value system, and they share theirs, there has to be some sort of agreement and compromise. Somewhere along the line, you give up some of the things that are not important for the purpose of having a relationship, for the purpose of having a relationship, and, in turn, they, likewise, make certain concessions. This is what we call compromise in a relationship so that we can have compromising value systems, and you have to make a decision, "Is this more important than my relationship, or no?" And, generally, if it's a good relationship, you say "No, because my relationships are so precious, I want to keep that." There is a way to make some sort of compromise.

This also is the case with God. God has a value system. God has a value system. So often, we will find this to be the case, God will say, "If you..." then "you..." this. If you will be doing this, then you will be receiving this. So, God pleads for us to come to His value system.

***Isaias 1:18-20 Venid luego, dirá Jehová, y estemos á cuenta: si vuestros pecados fueren como la grana, como la nieve serán emblanquecidos: si fueren rojos como el carmesí, vendrán á ser como blanca lana.***

***Si quisieréis y oyereis, comieréis el bien de la tierra: Si no quisieréis y fuereis rebeldes, seréis consumidos á espada: porque la boca de Jehová lo ha dicho.***

Love to have a different turn, because several of our people, there was nothing strange about that. As a matter of fact, some of them are kind of happy about it. "It's about time we got some Español up in this joint." But, in English, it says:

***Isaiah 1:18-20*** *Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.*

So, God pleads with us to come to His value system, because God says, "If you come to My system, then, though your sins would be as scarlet, whatever value system you had, *this* is the system that will take away your sins. Though your sins would be as scarlet, they will be as white as snow. Please come to My system. Please come to My system." Which brings us to our first topic:

## God Values Love

God values love. Two Scriptures right quick:

***Jeremiah 31:3*** *The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.*

"The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love..." An everlasting love. Ooh, that sounds great. "...therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee." I have drawn thee. Drawn thee to what? I have drawn thee to this everlasting love.

The Bible says here:

***Ephesians 2:4*** *But God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us,*

Wherewith He loved us. Now, God's love is immense. It is immeasurable by anything that we could call a standard. God's love is also pure, and it's able to reach us, it's able to touch us, it's able to do things for us, it's able to make a difference to us. Now, it's important at this point to realize that God's love didn't start with us. God didn't make the universe, and then the earth, and then all of us, and then make a decision to say, "Hey, I think I'll love those people." God's love started before any of us was ever brought about, before any of us came to be. Because the Bible says that God *IS* love. He is actual love incarnate. Before any of us came about, He was loving us already. So, it didn't start with us; it started with God. God's love has such a purpose, and that is to be bestowed upon us. And, this is why God also says, "Not only do I love thee, but I want you to love Me, too. I want the reciprocal." Mow, you have to understand, His love is—He freely gave that love to us, but he desires for us to love Him, also; that we should love Him with all our heart, and with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength, from the Book of Luke 10:27. The Lord speaking here:

***Luke 10:27*** *And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.*

God is not only interested in *if* we love Him, God is also interested in how we love Him. He wants to know how we love Him.

Some years ago, I was at this little organizational thing, and it was mainly for senior citizens, and I can't even remember why I was there, but they had all these little trinkets. So, a thought came to my mind, I thought, "Hey." I mean, they had like little pill boxes, and they had the little baggies, they had all these little things, and I thought, "Hey, I can gather all these things up, and have a little basket, and I can give them to my mom. You know what? that will kill two birds with one stone! She'll get a gift, and it won't cost me a dime! Yeah!" I thought I was pretty smart about it. So, that's exactly what I did. I gathered all the little trinkets up, I put them in a little bag, and, when I went over to see my mom, I gave her the little bag of trinkets. Yeah. Well, let me tell you what my mom did. She took that little bag, and looked at everything that was in it, and she told everybody. She told all our relatives, she told people at her work, I think she might have stopped people in the street, and told them, "Hey, hey, you, look and see; you see this? This is what my son buys me, a bunch of little cheap old gifts. That's what my son thinks of his mother." Yeah, I learned a lesson. I learned a lesson, because my mom wanted to teach me not to bring her any old bargain-basement, cheap old style of love. Don't bring her that; bring her a love that means something. Bring her the type of love that she has for me.

I learned a very important lesson that day, and I'm very thankful for that lesson, because that lesson goes directly to, and applies the same to the Lord our God. He is so much like that that He told them in the Book of Malachi, He said, "These gifts, these sacrifices, you wouldn't give them to your governor! They wouldn't receive them, and yet you bring them to Me, and I am a great King." (Malachi 1:8) Yes, yes, our Lord and Master has unconditional love, fervent love, immense love, huge love, but, the fact of the matter is, He's still God, and you can't just wipe your feet on Him. You can't take Him things that don't matter to you. He's God; He wants a similar type of love, a love that means something, when we go to love Him. What a God.

I'm about to close up this subject. Still talking about God's value system:

**1 Corinthians 13:13** *And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.*

The greatest of these... Now, faith, faith is huge. The Bible says that without faith, it is impossible to please Him (Hebrews 11:6). And hope? The Bible says that hope actually takes away shame (Romans 5:5). Hope takes away shame. But, it goes on to say that the greatest of these is charity. Charity? Yes, specifically charity. Charity would be that pure, Godly, meaningful, touching love. It's not the type of love that, "Hmmm. I think I'll measure it out to you;" it's the type of love that's freely given. The type of love that doesn't vaunt itself up (1 Corinthians 13:4). The type of love that, the Bible says in the same chapter, it endureth all things, it hopeth all things (1 Corinthians 13:7). Yes, charity.

The second point, the second thing that God values that we want to bring up:

### **God Values His Name**

God values His name. Oh, yeah.

**Acts 3:16** *And His name through faith in His name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.*

"And His name through faith in His name..." Through faith in His name. You know, we're living in a day and time when very little is Holy, anymore. We're living in a day and time where one of the worst

swear words you can use is the name of the Lord, and you hear it used right on the floor. The name of the Lord Himself. Salvation in that name, and they'll use it to throw it out, and they'll put it with any blasphemous thing that comes along. And society, society condones it. It even makes you to think that there's no consequence for just taking the name of the Lord and just wiping it in the dirt. But, God values His name.

**Exodus 6:3** *And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name JEHOVAH was I not known to them.*

God values His name so much that He doesn't even reveal it to everybody. Now, here is Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and they know Him as God Almighty, and that's enough for them. They didn't know Him by a name that came later. That name Jehovah, they didn't know Him by that; God revealed that name to Moses. When he revealed that name to Moses, he did it for a specific reason: The people were in bondage, and God revealed His name to them, just before deliverance. He revealed His name to them, just before they were baptized, the Bible says, in the Red Sea (1 Corinthians 10:2). He delivered His name Jehovah to them so that they might know who saved them. He delivered the name Jehovah. So valued, so valued is His name, that it is the third commandment. The third commandment says, "Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain;" and it goes on to say, "for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain." (Exodus 20:7) Yeah, commandment number three. The Lord breaks it down, and says, "Yeah, this is a commandment, and you'd better be careful with it."

If we go to the Book of Acts, chapter four, and verse number twelve, we see, yes, that God has many names throughout the scriptures; he does have many names. He is named everlasting Father, Wonderful, Counsellor, Prince of Peace, He has many names. We wouldn't be able to finish it in this sermon today. He has many names. But, in the Book of Acts, chapter four, and verse number twelve, He tells us something specific about this name:

**Acts 4:12** *Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under Heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*

So, after our Lord and Savior was crucified, spilled His blood for us to take away our sins, we realize that that name has been given to all of us specifically so that we would have access to Heaven, to make it to Heaven. You could say, "But God has many names; I can use any of those." The Bible says there is none other name under Heaven; not another name under Heaven given to men to be saved by. So, he has many names, but that's the name He gave us to be saved by; the name Jesus. We have salvation in His name.

The next part of God's value system that we're going to mention today is:

## God Values Pride

Yeah, God values pride, but, in a negative sense. God values pride in a negative sense. God has a value system where we are to see, yeah, He has many things that He values, but there is a level of importance on things. Absolutely.

**Proverbs 8:13** *The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.*

“...Do I hate.” So, we see that in the Book of Jeremiah, God said, “These things I love,” but here, we’re seeing that God says, “These things I hate. These things I hate: Pride, arrogancy, and the evil way, and the forward mouth. Pride will get you to put yourself above anything or anyone else, including God Himself. It will make you listen more to yourself than God. It will also cause you to cast off the love that you might have for somebody else, to take it away and put it more on yourself. Pride will cause you to take credit for things that are not yours. Pride? Oh, yeah. Pride will cause you to think that if you even have a great fellowship time with somebody, “Oh, it’s because I was there. You know, I’m the one.” That’s pride. Pride will cause you, if God blesses you to teach or share some scriptures or a study, pride will get you to think, “Yeah, it’s all about me.” “Me, me, me, me, me, me, me, me, me, me.” Pride. Yeah. Pride will cause you to, if it’s a share time, if it’s a singing time, “It’s me. God blesses everybody, but, you know, it’s me.” Pride. Pride will make you think that, if you prayed a prayer and it got answered, once again, it’s all about you. But God has a specific thing that He thinks and feels about pride. There’s a good example, there’s a good example in the Book of Acts chapter twelve verses twenty-one, twenty-two, and verse twenty-three—specifically verse twenty-three—about a certain king, and the Bible goes on to talk about how he gave this great oration and people lauded about it; they were happy about it. They went on to say, “It sounded like the voice of a god; this man is so special.” But, then, the Bible says, because he gave not God the glory, God had an answer for that. Acts 12:23, I should let y’all read that one. Go home and read that. But, in the Book of Job, God has a whole different exposé, explanation; He expounds on pride a little bit differently, and very much more clearly. We’re almost over; we’re almost done, Saints. The Bible goes on to say, here:

**Job 41:34** *He beholdeth all high things: he is a king over all the children of pride.*

“...he is a king...” Now, this talking about Leviathan. Leviathan the great serpent, the great sea-serpent, and it goes on to talk about nobody can handle that one, that Leviathan, that great, big snake that’s been around for a long, long time. We, of course, know Leviathan by a different name; we just call him the devil. We just call him the devil, and the Bible says that he is king over all the children of pride. So, if you find that pride is rising up, and you want to give more into pride than anything else, then all you have to do is say, “Yeah, I am a child, and that is my kingdom.” That’s God valuing pride, but in a completely negative sense.

But, God also values one other thing that were going to mention this morning.

## God Values Listening to Him

God values listening to Him. He really does, Saints.

**Romans 10:1-3** *Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.*

“...To every one that believeth.” Here, Apostle Paul teaches us that the Jews, unfortunately, they had gotten God’s value system wrong. You see, it’s great to have zeal. Zeal is a wonderful thing, and a necessary thing for us to have. But, that’s providing that it’s used in God’s way. Just because you have zeal, doesn’t mean that you’re right. Zeal, but it has to be done according to knowledge. Anybody can understand this. Anybody can understand that, when you have a certain task, whether it’s a professional

task, whether it's housework as a task, or whether it's driving a car; zeal to do these things is wonderful, and it needs to happen so that it can be an effective job, but zeal to do it *right* is what's necessary. Doing something is not the same as doing something right. It goes for everything from washing the dishes, vacuuming the floor, it goes for—even if you have a value system on the job where you work. I'm sure that whoever your employer is will make sure that this is what the edict is, this is what we are directed to do, and this is the proper way to do it. That is the way it winds up—don't just say you showed up and you did *something*, show up and do what I told you to do. So, zeal is good, but it has to be done according to knowledge. So, there is a complete remedy for that: And this is our last scripture:

***Psalms 86:11*** *Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name.*

“Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name.” So we ask the Lord to teach us. Lord, teach us. Then we can make sure we're walking right, and we're doing right, and, then, Lord, I'll have that unity with You. You will be able to unite me with You, and our unity will be closer, and closer, and closer, and closer, and closer. Amen. Give the Lord a praise.

