

Gratitude: Raising the Reading on the Gauge; Definition; Virtue Love

Remember, the rebellion is not really against Moses, it is against the Word of the Shekinah.

Those who rebel against the Word can't stomach the idea of challenging God so they self-justify by criticizing His duly appointed leadership. If you reject truth, you must justify your decision, "*This is not rebellion because our leadership is either incompetent or has purposefully brought us into the Jornada to kill us.*" This is self-deception. But if someone says you're wrong, then self-justification says, "*O, no. I'm right!*" You have told on yourself by revealing you have no gratitude in their soul.

God has provided everything yet you are not happy. No gratitude means no happiness. No happiness means a buildup of venom in the soul. Venom in the soul is eventually matched by venom in the body by means of psychosomatic goads that affect one's physical well-being. Without rebound recovery, this is soon joined by the divine administration of warning, intensified, and terminal discipline.

J. Raising the Reading on the Gratitude Gauge Definition of Terms

Webster's New Ninth Collegiate Dictionary, s.v. "gauge":

gauge: measurement according to some standard or system; an instrument with a graduated scale or dial for measuring or indicating quantity; to measure the size, dimensions, or quantity of exactly; to determine the capacity of; to check for conformity to specifications or limits; syn STANDARD.

standard: applies to any definite rule, principle, or measure established by authority; GAUGE applies to a means of testing figuratively a particular quality or aspect.

Oxford English Dictionary, s.v. "gratitude":

Gratitude. The quality or condition of being grateful; a warm sense of appreciation of kindness received, a feeling of goodwill towards the benefactor, and a desire to do something in return; gratefulness; an expression of thankfulness. Gratitude. Making a show of gratitude.

From this we will now develop a working definition of the Gratitude Gauge as it applies to our study. First of all, a couple of passages of Scripture will remind us of some things which will help our understanding of the concept:

Deuteronomy 8:2 - You shall remember all the way the Lord God led you in the Jornada these forty years that He might humble you, testing you to know what is in your stream of consciousness, whether or not you would keep His imperative moods.

Deuteronomy 8:3 - Therefore, He humbled you; He both caused you to hunger then He fed you with manna, which you did not know and your ancestors did not know, in order that He might cause you to understand that man does not live only by bread but man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of God.

Revelation 2:23 - I am He Who constantly inventories the emotions and the stream of consciousness ...

Verses such as these indicate that the Lord is ever aware of all the activities which go on in our streams of consciousness and our emotions. Orientation to God's imperative moods indicate whether one possesses a sense of gratitude or ingratitude towards Him. With these things in mind here is our definition of the Gratitude Gauge:

Gratitude Gauge

Measures the level of gratefulness, appreciation, and thankfulness a believer has towards God for kindnesses received. The ten problem-solving devices constitute the graduated dial settings on the gauge. The gauge's reading reflects the individual believer's conformity to divine standards from which is determined his capacity for blessings.

A part of the Lord's daily inventory of the believer's soul includes a check of his Gratitude Gauge's current reading. Lack of gratitude means that the believer can never understand the mechanics of virtue love or acquire true happiness.

Thieme, R. B., Jr. Christian Suffering. 2d ed. Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 1997; p. 92:

Gates 5 and 6 of the divine [power system] represent a single virtue. Personal love for God comes first. As personal love for God increases, the believer's attitude toward self improves. Spiritual self-esteem becomes spiritual autonomy. As this inner strength becomes established in his soul, he is able to deal more consistently with others from impersonal love.

Both of these categories of love can be illustrated in the sentence "I love you." In personal love, the emphasis is on the "you," on the attractiveness, character, intelligence, and personality of the object of love. Personal love depends on rapport with the object. Personal love requires a degree of intimacy, knowledge, trust, and reciprocation. For compatibility to exist, the "I" and the "you" must perceive one another as fulfilling each other's norms and standards.

Impersonal love is entirely a function of the "I." The term acknowledges that no compatibility, familiarity, reciprocation, or intimacy of any kind is required between the subject and object. Impersonal love is the spiritually autonomous believer's unconditional attitude toward everyone he meets. It is the expression of his integrity, which is manifested by tolerance, patience, compassion, courtesy, and generosity. Impersonal love excludes prejudice, hypocrisy, insensitivity, and rudeness.

We have established in past studies that true happiness is an inner resource which is not affected by any outside adversity or advantage.

Happiness

An inner resource developed from maximum doctrine circulating in the stream of consciousness resulting in such sophisticated orientation and adjustment to the plan of God that all aspects of life are evaluated in the light of eternal rather than temporal implications.

Because the first-generation Jews had a zero reading on gratitude gauge is why they never reached the land. No gratitude means venom in the soul; venom in the soul means a lifestyle based on the three arrogant skills.