

Entitlement

"They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one...For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:12, 23

The dictionary defines entitlements as "guaranteed benefits." In the United States, this word entitlement has become a prominent issue. Society reminds the individual that he or she is entitled to an ever-increasing array of benefits. For this reason, people are becoming fragile, perceiving themselves as victims.

Biblically, God said the only thing you are entitled to is hell. Believers understand that the last thing they want is to ask God to give them what is entitled to them. The Bible says, "...What have you that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if it were not a gift?"¹ The only thing the Bible guarantees is accountability for behavior. As the Apostle Paul warns, "To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath."²

God relates to His own on the basis of grace. This means that if you know Him and have gained favor in His sight, it is a gift, not an entitlement, and if you know Him He expects you to look to Him alone for all of your needs. If you look to others for the meeting of your needs, or seek to use others to meet your needs, you anger Him. Even to think in terms of entitlement is to provoke His wrath.

¹ 1 Corinthians 4:7 ² Romans 2:7-8