

WISDOM JOURNAL

DAY 57

SUBJECT: LIVING UNDER PEOPLE'S EXPECTATIONS

When I was living under people's expectations that was the day I quit doing ministry. I remember that day like it was yesterday. I walked away from the church while **STAYING** faithful to King Jesus. However, serving and working in the church was over for me.

Everyone I knew wanted me to be in ministry and become a Pastor **BEFORE** my appointed time. They wanted me to carry the weight of a grown man as a child. I couldn't do it. I resented these people. I felt trapped in my own skin.

I knew serving God was the right thing to do. I did not want to deny my purpose. However, I was feeling robbed of my youth. Forgive me for saying this, but I wanted to indulge in a negative behavior at the time. I was jealous at

other teenagers because I saw them live a life of fun, lawlessness and adventure.

I felt locked to a standard I **NEVER** agreed to abide by. One day I spoke to a person of great wisdom. She taught me how to live for God **AND** for **MYSELF**. I did not know how to do this. While I was being mentored, I realized that I **WAS LIVING UNDER THE EXPECTATIONS OF PEOPLE**.

This was a hard truth for me to swallow. I had to admit to myself that I was afraid of people. I wasn't physically afraid of them. However, I was afraid of how they would perceive me. I was afraid of how they would treat me if I acted contrary to how they saw me.

My fear of their opinions held me in the **CAPTIVITY OF THEIR EXPECTATIONS**. Proverbs 29:25 says, "*Being afraid of people can get you in trouble, but if you trust the Lord, you will be safe.*" It shames me to say this but I failed to trust the Lord.

Through trial and error, heartache and pain I learned to **FEAR GOD, LOVE PEOPLE,** and **LIVE MY LIFE.** Since I've been doing this, it has become easier for me to live under God's expectations, **NOT** people.

TAKEAWAY: Do not live your life doing what other people expect you to do. Live your life doing what **GOD WANTS** you to do.

Wisdom Journalist

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