

Chapter 24

Coming to Jesus with Mixed Motives

Jesus said:

“All that the Father gives Me shall come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out” (John 6:37).

Think of all the sick, all the demon-possessed, all the lame, and all the blind who came to Jesus. Do you think all those people had perfectly pure motives for coming to Jesus? Did they all come purely because they loved Jesus? Or do you think most of them had mixed motives for coming to Jesus? It seems likely (you can disagree if you like) that most of them had mixed motives. It seems likely that most of them were motivated by the desperate needs in their lives.

They came to Jesus driven by pain and suffering and fear rather than pure love for God, but Jesus never cast *any* of them out. Matthew records:

And when evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed; and He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were ill (Matthew 8:16).

He healed *all* who were ill. All. He cast out no one. Only the demons got cast out. He *never* rebuked a blind person, saying, “You are selfish. You just want your eyesight. You are just trying to use me. Go away and produce pure motives, and then I will accept you and heal you.”

No, no hurting person was ever cast out for being selfish. *The only issue was* that these hurting people came to the right Person.

In John 6:37, Jesus said that he will *certainly not* cast you out if you will only come to him. Certainly means certainly! The only issue is that you *come to the right person*. Your motives for coming to him are probably mixed (mine usually are, too), but his invitation is, “Come to Me” (Matthew 11:28).

The Lord will purify our motives, sure enough. But it will be through acceptance, not rejection. The issue is, *always* begin by coming to the right Person.