

CelebrateChange.org August 24, 2011

Just Wait a Minute! We need time to change

1 Corinthians 4:5 "So don't get ahead of the Master and jump to conclusions with your judgments before all the evidence is in. When He comes, He will bring out in the open and place in evidence all kinds of things we never dreamed of—inner motives and purposes and prayers. Only then will any one of us get to hear the 'Well done!' of God." (Message Bible)

Paul was being judged by the church folks when he wrote this. He knew some of them had their mind set that he was not right. He wasn't the most popular preacher in his day and often I believe it was because of how firm he held his belief in holiness. He wanted the church people to realize it was inappropriate for them to determine the outcome of anyone's eternal status because they do not have all the facts. Perhaps someone observed a shortcoming in Paul's character and decided to hold him hostage because of it. I know it's the nature of humans who are not Spirit led to point fingers and put others down because they've discovered, or think they've discovered, some discrepancy in their Christian character.

The next time you are tempted to do that, pause that thought. Paul is right, when the time comes for everyone to be judged by God, He will bring out all the facts and evidence to corroborate His decision about their eternal destiny. We don't know their inner motives or the purpose behind their action/words and we don't know what they said to God while praying.

If you become the target of other's condemnation don't allow yourself to be overtaken by this action wherein it creates anger or resentment toward your accusers. Just wait a minute and remember, we all need time to change and that allotment of time is as long as we have breath in our body. God has given us all time to change. Hallelujah!

None of us should jump ahead of the Lord by jumping to conclusions about anyone's eternal outcome. And the main reason why is, He is the only one qualified to say to us, "Well Done."

Residing in Fort Worth, TX, Dr. Vanessa Dantzler Ussery is the former Senior Pastor of Home Assembly Church in Los Angeles and currently serves as its Chief Executive Officer. She is also the founder of "Celebrate Change Ministries" and the author of "My Be Attitude: Who Be You?", which is available online in softcover or eBook at MyBeAttitude.org, Xulon Press, Amazon and Barnes & Noble. Dr. Ussery is available for national speaking engagements, empowerment seminars, and lectures.