

Review: Nike Awards

Sobran, Joseph. "Theirs is Deep-Seated Arrogance." Conservative Chronicle. 8 Nov. 1995, p. 25.

The first level is suffering which results under the Law of Volitional Responsibility. If the believer does not respond to this stage of discipline, then God gets personally involved and begins to goad him with warning discipline. The goads intensify until there is recovery or ultimately the administration of the sin unto death.

Hebrews 12:5 - emphasizes the failure of Jewish believers in Jerusalem to take seriously God's warnings about divine discipline and then, once under its pressure, to move into discouragement.

Hebrews 12:5 - And so you yourselves have forgotten the doctrinal instruction which teaches you as sons: "My son, stop making light of the Lord's chastisement nor become discouraged when you are reprov'd by Him."

Verse 6 emphasizes the fact that discipline should not be taken lightly or feared since God administers it as a father punishes his son—through unconditional love.

Hebrews 12:6 - For you see, whom the Lord loves, he disciplines by means of chastisement and punishes to the maximum every son who He welcomes home.

God's motivation for goading the straying believer back on course is so that He can bless and reward him.

There are 7 Nike Awards in 13 paragraphs which describe the blessings and rewards already imputed to each and every believer since eternity past. God wants to convey those blessings and rewards in both time and eternity. The only thing stopping this from happening is human error, human sin, human good, human evil, and human viewpoint.

God, in His love, endeavors to correct, guide, redirect, train, teach, motivate, and encourage His sons in the manner which would enable Jesus Christ to convey these Nike Awards to each and every one of them. Thus, it is through unconditional love that God administers divine discipline. If we were not sons, He wouldn't even bother. Therefore, what becomes one of our major motivations for compliance with the imperative moods of the New Testament?

Escrow blessings in time and eternity!

We are not going to review these categories at this point in our study, but with Thanksgiving and Christmas just around the corner, let's review the 7 Nike Awards.

Generally, we count our material blessings at Thanksgiving and our spiritual blessings at Christmas. Here is an opportunity for us to count our eternal blessings first. They are ours for the taking by fulfilling the mandates of God's perfect plan.

A REVIEW OF THE SEVEN NIKE AWARDS

1. The 1st Nike Award

Paragraph 1: Privilege to eat from the Tree of Life.

Paragraph 2: Membership which can never be taken away in the Paradise Club of God.

Revelation 2:7 - To him who is a winner [*toi nikonti*] I will give him the privilege of eating from the Tree of Life which is in the Paradise Club of God.

2. The 2nd Nike Award

The Crown, Corona, Coronet, or Stephanos of Life.

Revelation 2:10 - Keep on becoming faithful unto death and I will give you the Crown of Life.

3. The 3rd Nike Award Christened with a new name of aristocracy.

Revelation 2:17 - To him who is a winner, I will give blessing from the source of the hidden manna [**Escrow Blessing in Time**], and I will give him a white stone [**resurrection body**]; furthermore, on the stone has been written a new name of aristocracy, which new name of aristocracy no one knows except the one who receives it.

4. The 4th Nike Award

Paragraph 1: Assignment to and rulership authority over a nation in the Millennial theocracy. Paragraph 2: Investiture into the eternal order of chivalry, the Most Noble Order of the Morning Star.

Oxford English Dictionary, s.v. “investiture”:

The action of clothing or robing; the action or ceremony of clothing in the insignia of an office; the formal investing of a person with an office or rank; establishment in any state of privilege or honor.