

John 5:41-42 (NLT)

Your approval or disapproval means nothing to me, because I know you don't have God's love within you.

"I hope my boss likes what I did today."

"I'm just going to take this over to the neighbors house, I'm sure they'll like me if I do."

"Maybe if I wore these clothes or fixed my hair this way, he or she would notice me."

"I'll go to the bar with them, but just to have a soda. Maybe then they will accept me."

All things we have thought and even done to get approval from others. But did you read the words of our Lord and Savior Jesus?

† ***Your approval or disapproval means nothing to me***

Do you know who Jesus was saying this to? The religious leaders.

† **John 5:16 (NLT)** *So the Jewish leaders began harassing Jesus for breaking the Sabbath rules.*

The religious leaders hated Jesus because He didn't follow their laws and ways of doing things. The world hates us because we don't follow their ways and accept the things that they do. So why are their ways different than ours? Jesus tells us.

† ***because I know you don't have God's love within you.***

They could care less what God really thinks. If they did, they wouldn't do or allow the things they do. But we have the love of God in us, and with that love comes the heart of obedience to God and not the world. Jesus was obedient to God and not the religious leaders, because they didn't follow God's law, but rather made up their own laws.

† **Mark 7:13** *"making the word of God of no effect through your tradition which you have handed down. And many such things you do."*

So don't think it strange when the world, your old friends and even your family members start rejecting you because you do not agree with their way of life.

Just remember that you are in good company, because Jesus was also rejected for not accepting the ways of the world, which were the big shot, religious leaders who refused to listen to God's word.

† **Romans 2:8 (NLT2)** *But he will pour out his anger and wrath on those who live for themselves, who refuse to obey the truth and instead live lives of wickedness.*