

Luke 11:40

Foolish ones! Did not He who made the outside make the inside also?

For 18 years I worked for a company that made products to help, mostly women look larger in certain places, as well as helped both men and women look younger than they really are. Ok, simply they mostly catered to peoples vanity.

Yet people, including Christian's, put so much emphasis on the outside. It doesn't matter that their insides are falling apart, as long as the outside looks good. People think that by looking good on the outside that they can hide the inside and all that's going in their life.

But some do need a little help with the outside, I remember hearing pastor Chuck say that if the barn needs painting, then paint it. After all, didn't God give us eyes to look at beautiful things. So why not try to look good. Even as a guy, I'm not really a tee shirt kind of guy. I try to look good all the time, and the older I get, the harder it is to achieve that.

I am also newly married and I still remember how beautiful my wife looked (Plus I have the picture on my phone). My eyes enjoy the beauty of my wife.

But here is a thought, if God wanted us to put so much emphasis on the outward beauty, don't you think the bible would describe in detail what Jesus looked like? Sure, there are the so called pictures (I call them idols) of Jesus. But they are not what Jesus looks like. It would be like having 100 people who never met me, paint or draw a picture of me. You would have 100 different versions of Steve.

But what about Jesus, the Son of God, God in the flesh, what would He look like. Well, I guess it would be based upon your upbringing, your nationality, and your preference of what you think a perfect man, or what God would look like. So we would all draw or paint a different picture of Jesus.

But do you know how the Psalms describe Jesus?

† ***Isaiah 53:2 For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him.***

Or as the NLT puts it.

† **Isaiah 53:2 (NLT2)** *My servant grew up in the LORD's presence like a tender green shoot, like a root in dry ground. There was nothing beautiful or majestic about his appearance, nothing to attract us to him.*

Yet we have pictures that have Jesus standing out in a crowd. Now in the bible Jesus does stand out in a crowd, but not because of His outward appearance, but rather because of His inside appearance, which was God's inward appearance.

† **John 5:19** *Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner."*

† **John 14:9** *Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"*

Even in today's devotional verse, this was part of Jesus' response to a Pharisee who got upset because Jesus did not wash His hands before eating.

† **Luke 11:39** *Then the Lord said to him, "Now you Pharisees make the outside of the cup and dish clean, but your inward part is full of greed and wickedness."*

Which is very clear how people try to look so good on the outside, yet are disgusting on the inside.

Once again Jesus addresses it with.

† **Matthew 23:27** *Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness.*

So stop spending so much time on your outward appearance, and start spending more time on the inward man.

† **2 Corinthians 4:16** *Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.*