



# Death Of PIETY

I occasionally catch my wife giving me the look. You may get it too. I'll look over (mostly from the T.V.) and she is staring at me. The intellectual response I give her is, "What?!" She just simply says, "You're so handsome." So as I set up psychiatric sessions and eye doctors, I can't help but think, "I guess I am."

Can I let you in briefly on a man's secret? When we walk and talk, without there being any mirrors, we hear and think of ourselves as we were in our early twenties. Then a mirror pops up, and we think, "Who's in my house?!"

I believe this is common with most of us; both physical and spiritual. It is normal and has a direct influence in a healthy self-esteem. We think we are basically good. Well I'm good and you're ok. In fact if I am honest, I think I am better than most. And to the extreme I am better than you. I live more like Jesus than you.

I've heard about some of your choices. What you have told people. And I can only imagine what you do when you're alone. No doubt about it...I am better than you. I know it. You should know it. Even God knows it.

Then like a mirror on the wall I allow the Word to be the mirror of my soul. As much as I want to say there were more of your sins in the blood of Jesus, mine are just as much. As far as I want to say that you are from God, we stand here together with our arms around each other. As much as I want to think of myself better than most Christians, the ground is level at the cross and my sin and your sin plays the part of the nails.

And that reality hurts me. Humbles me. Brings me down from my "high horse" to the place where my soul screams through the distance, "I need you Jesus!" And it is from there God places His throne and Spirit in me and I can't wait to see you brother and sister. To embrace you. To serve you. Because we need...completely need grace to accomplish God's holiness.

And since my piety is dead, can we walk together?

From My Heart,

*Billy*