

## **Great Is Your Reward**

### **Ready:**

"Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven..."  
-Matthew 5:12a

### **Set**

The University of Colorado has stiffened its recruiting guidelines for the school's football program amidst allegations of rape and other inappropriate activities during recruiting visits. When asked if the tougher guidelines would hurt recruiting, school chancellor Richard Byyny said, "It really doesn't matter. We want to have a model program. We want to make sure students understand they are here first for an education."

Putting stricter recruiting guidelines on the football team could cost the program and the school many rewards, as well as the financial incentives that come with them. Despite the potential cost, the university should be commended for implementing restrictions to try to restore some integrity to the program and the school.

In life, we are often tempted to neglect righteousness for the sake of earthly rewards. In Matthew chapter 6, Jesus said that the Pharisees, who sought after the praise and honor of men (an earthly reward), received their reward in full. Our desire should be to seek the praises of God, and He will reward us. Now, who do you think gives greater rewards, God or man?

Make pleasing God your main pursuit in life, and you will be richly rewarded in His time and in His way.

### **Go**

1. What is the greatest reward you have received in athletics?
2. How much are you willing to risk in earthly rewards in order to please God?
3. Do you trust God — that He will reward you for your righteousness?

### **Workout**

Psalm 18:24  
Matthew 6:19-21  
Luke 12:13-21

### **Bible Reference:**

Luke 12



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