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Pastor's Column

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Avoiding the Danger of Self-Justification

These thoughts are taken from C.S. Lewis' *God on the Dock*:

“When we see how all our plans shipwreck on the characters of people we have to deal with, we are, ‘in one way,’ seeing what it must be like for God. But only in one way. There are two respects in which God’s view must be very different from ours. In the first place, He sees (like you) how all the people in your home or in your job are in various degrees awkward or difficult, but when He looks into that home or factory or office He sees one more person of the same kind—the one you never do see. I mean, of course, yourself. That is the next great step in wisdom—to realize that you are just that sort of person. You also have a fatal flaw in your character. All the hopes and plans of others have again and again shipwrecked on theirs.

It is important to realize that there is some really fatal flaw in you; something which gives the others just that same feeling of despair which their flaws give you. And it is always certainly something you don’t know about—like what the advertisements call ‘halitosis’ which everyone notices except the person who has it.”

In these days, may we be growing in wisdom. May we see in ourselves what we so easily see in others.

I pray that in these days of summer you are finding some time of recreation and re-creation.

F. Mike