

More than the Pharisees

A wonderful quote that came from the lips of World Champion Muhamad Ali ran as follows

“If I was a road sweeper
I would be the best road sweeper there ever was”

“If I was a road sweeper
I would be the best road sweeper there ever was”

“unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees”

Bolton road was playing its usual trick of delaying the day for those trying to pass through this idyllic part of East Lancashire.

There in the midst of the frustrated motorists were a set of traffic lights and a man in a hole in the middle of the road.

That man was doing his best.

That man was working in conditions created by Victorians to deal with traffic consisting mainly of horses and carts.

Repairing a mains pipe older than he was. Then back filling the hole in such a way that the material would soak up the vibrations created by articulated 21st century lorry's.

A Lot of Pressure

So why should he do it

In part because it was necessary

In part because the rules of the road demanded it

However his righteousness exceeded that of the Scribes and the Pharisees at the Town hall

He did it because he had pride in his work

He did it because if a job was worth doing it was worth doing right

He did it because if he were a road sweeper

He would be the best road sweeper there ever was.

Dinner was always a rushed affair. Even Sunday dinner was between football appointments, and the demands of social media.

There in the midst of adalesant children, who had grown to such a size with appetites to match was found one of the family cooks.

The chef was doing his best

That parent working in conditions restricted by ignorance and income.

Placing the chicken in the tray, in the oven. Parboiling the potatoes as Jamie Oliver had so enthusiastically demonstrated. Refusing the popularity of sugar based pizza, or fat based burger.

A Lot of Pressure

So why should they do it

In part because it was necessary

In part because the rules of health demanded it

However their righteousness exceeded that of the Scribes and the Pharisees who had the money education and kitchens that suited such production.

They did it because they had pride in their work

They did it because if a job was worth doing it was worth doing right

They did it because if they were a road sweepers

They would be the best road sweepers there ever was.

Getting up in the morning had never been an easy challenge. Even when younger, and having the real target of arriving in time for work.

There seemed to be a hundred reasons for staying in the comfort, and a thousand excuses for not making the effort.

The poor victim of age was doing her best

Working with conditions and mood swings, which whispered into the mind compromise and defeat.

Recognising that this body must be pushed now to do what was subconsciously achieved in times of greater health.

A lot of pressure

So why should they do it

In part because it was necessary

In part because the rules of health demanded it

However their righteousness exceeded that of the Scribes and the Pharisees who sat the other side of the television screen and proclaimed don't bother

But they did it because they had pride in themselves

They did it because if a job was worth doing it was worth doing right

They did it because if they were a road sweepers

They would be the best road sweepers there ever was.

“unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees”

Why should you do it

You should do it because more is expected of you

Why should you do it

You should do it because you are called to move beyond the rules and social conventions

Why should you do it

You should do it because you are beautiful

Indeed

Do it for love

Do it for love

Do it for love