

THE CORRECT ATTITUDE ABOUT SERVING GOD

Romans 6:5-14 ... "...we also shall be in the likeness of his [Christ's] resurrection...our old man was crucified with him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin...we shall also live with him...you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive in God in Christ Jesus our Lord...for sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under the law but under grace."

When we speak of serving God, which we do often in these devotionals, we are not speaking about duty or obligation. I do not want you to be confused or misled about that. Just because we mention it often, does not mean we are trying to put a guilt trip on you. The Apostle Paul explains his reasons – your reasons – for serving God very clearly in the book of Romans. Our verses today are samples from Romans chapter 6. You might want to read the entire passage (verses 5-14) in your own Bible.

Although it is God's expectation and desire that you serve him, it is still a matter of choice. You have free-will to decide for yourself to serve God, or not. The best reason for you to serve God is not because of a command or a demand, but because of your gratefulness for what God (and Christ through his death) has done for you. Paul is telling us that he serves God because he is thankful for salvation, because God is truth, and because sin no longer has control of his life. Because of these great rewards for believing in Christ, Paul was motivated to serve him out of gratefulness. After all, the "grace" that Paul cites in verse 14, and the grace we live under, is not something we earn, but an undeserved gift from God.

It is also important to understand that you cannot earn salvation, nor God's love and blessings by serving him. Serving God comes after you are saved, it does not save you. God's grace is not for sale. There is nothing you can do to obtain grace. It is only available to you as God's gift for your submission to him. So, if you are struggling with the thought of serving God, consider what he has done for you. Perhaps if you list the blessings of God in your life, you will find yourself thankful enough to WANT to serve God, instead of being pressured to serve him because someone told you it is your duty.

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