

COMPLETE CHRISTIANITY – PART 3

Matthew 6:24 ... “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon [money].”

We have been exploring the three principle components of a Christian’s relationship with God. In part 1 we discussed salvation. In part 2 we spoke of worship. Today we will end this series with SERVICE.

As we have mentioned many times, God created you for two purposes: to worship him, and to serve him, both of which should begin to happen after you accept Christ’s death as payment for your sins. So this, in a nutshell, encapsulates the three principles of Complete Christianity. If you pretend to worship of God before you are born-again, it is pointless. God will not hear you until you have confessed and repented of your sins. Churches that allow unsaved persons to play or sing in the worship band, are making a tragic mistake. Leading worship is a Biblically-ordained leadership position and no one can lead in a church if they are not born again. The same concern is true for serving God. If you work as hard as you can in telling others about Jesus, helping the sick and elderly, and clap your hands red in church worship services, you are still lost if you are not yourself born again.

Serving God has prerequisites, just as your employer may have prerequisites to work for him or her. Your employer may require that you know how to use a hammer, how to catch fish, how to plant crops, or how to fix engines. Your employer may require you to wear a uniform, arrive at work on-time, eat your lunch within the prescribed break time, and complete your work accurately. Your employer may tell you that everything you build or create while on the job, belongs to him; you have no right to sell it to others without his permission, and when you leave his employ, you may not take your creations with you. To serve God, you must first be born-again and you should be finding ways to worship him. This assures God of your dedication and your sincerity. Then, when you serve God you must give him the glory, which means you do not take credit for your work. This is why many people find serving God a disappointment. They want to serve him on their own terms, in their own way, and when they please. When they take that position, they are only serving themselves.

If you are complete Christian, all three of the principles we have discussed in this series apply to you; they resonate with your heart. You know – without any doubt – that your relationship with God has a secure foundation. You are a born-again believer: Re-born spiritually by your acceptance of Christ’s death as payment for your sins. You are a worshipper: You have found a way to worship God even if you are not musical. And, you are a servant of God: You have sacrificed your plans and your will so you can live according to the will of God; serving him on his terms and not taking any credit for your work or your success.

If any one of these three components are missing from your life, confess that to God and ask him to help you make the adjustments and changes required to complete your Christian experience.

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