

## **How Bad Do You Want It?** **Sacrifice \* Saturation \* Service**

II Chronicles 7:14 AMP

14 If My people, who are called by My name, shall humble themselves, pray, seek, crave, and require of necessity My face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land.

**SERVICE:** The act of helpful activity; help; aid: to do someone a service.

**<<< We are all serving something >>>**

Matthew 6:24

No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will stand by and be devoted to the one and despise and be against the other. You cannot serve God and mammon (deceitful riches, money, possessions or whatever is trusted in).

Many Times We Trust Stuff More Than the Spirit

Matthew 6:25-34

Therefore I tell you, stop being perpetually uneasy (anxious and worried) about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink; or about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life greater (in quality) than food, and the body (far above and more excellent) than clothing?

Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father keeps feeding them. Are you not worth much more than they?

And who of you by worrying and being anxious can add one cubit to his stature or to the span of his life?

And why should you be anxious about clothes? Consider the lilies of the field and learn thoroughly how they grow; they neither toil nor spin.

Yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his magnificence (excellence, dignity, and grace) was not arrayed like one of these.

But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and green and tomorrow is tossed into the furnace, will He not much more surely clothe you, O you of little faith

Therefore do not worry and be anxious, saying, What are we going to have to eat? Or, What are we going to have to drink? Or, What are we going to have to wear?

For the Gentiles (heathen) wish and crave and diligently seek all these things, and your heavenly Father knows well that you need them all.

BUT SEEK (AIM AT AND STRIVE AFTER) FIRST OF ALL HIS KINGDOM AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS (HIS WAY OF DOING AND BEING RIGHT), AND THEN ALL THESE THINGS TAKEN TOGETHER WILL BE GIVEN YOU BESIDES.

SO DO NOT WORRY OR BE ANXIOUS ABOUT TOMORROW, FOR TOMORROW WILL HAVE WORRIES AND ANXIETIES OF ITS OWN. SUFFICIENT FOR EACH DAY IS ITS OWN TROUBLE.

**<<< We are called to Serve God >>>**

Joshua 24:14-15

Now therefore, (reverently) fear the Lord and serve Him in sincerity and in truth; put away the gods which your fathers serve on the other side of the (Euphrates) River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord.

And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell, but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Romans 12:1

I appeal to you therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of (all) the mercies of God, to make a decisive dedication of your bodies (presenting all you members and faculties) as a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship.

- **There is a cost to serve Christ:**

John 12:26

If anyone serves Me, he must continue to follow Me (to cleave steadfastly to Me, conform wholly to My example in living and, if need be, in dying) and wherever I am, there will My servant be also. If anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

Luke 9:23

And He said to all, If any person wills to come after Me, let him deny himself (disown himself, forget, lose sight of himself and his own interests, refuse and give up himself) and take up his cross daily and follow Me (cleave steadfastly to Me, conform wholly to My example in living and, if need be, in dying also).

Psalm 100:2

Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before his presence with singing!

- **There is a Consequence to Serving Christ:**

1 Corinthians 15:57

But thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory (making us conquerors) through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 4:13

I have strength for all things in Christ Who empowers me (I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him Who infuses inner strength into me; I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency).

**<<< We are Called to Serve Others >>>**

Ephesians 6:5-7

Servants, be obedient to those who are your physical masters, having respect for them and eager concern to please them, in singleness of motive and with all your heart, as (service) to Christ (Himself) –

Not in the way of eye-service (as if they were watching you) and only to please me, but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God heartily and with your whole soul:

Rendering service readily with good will, as to the Lord and not to men.

- **Give of what Heaven Has**

Matthew 10:7-8

And as you go, preach, saying The kingdom of heaven is at hand!

Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, drive out demons, Freely you have received, freely give.

- **Give of what You Have**

Matthew 19:21 – Rich Young Ruler

Jesus answered him, If you would be perfect (that is, have that spiritual maturity which accompanies self-sacrificing character), go and sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have riches in heaven; and come, be My disciple (side with My party and follow me).

Luke 6:38

Give, and (gifts) will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will they pour into (the pouch formed by) the bosom (of your robe and used as a bag). For with the measure you deal out (with the measure you use when you confer benefits on others), it will be measured back to you.

**<< Search it Out >>** This week, you're encouraged to read, study, and DO...

II Chronicles Chapters 1 – 7 and 8

John 13

List 3 things you can do this week to bless and help someone: \_\_\_\_\_

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