Christian Service Psalms 100:2 – "Serve the LORD"

Messages in the "Serving God" Series:

- **1. FOUR PRINCIPLES OF SERVICE**
- 2. REASONABLE SERVICE FOR GOD
- 3. THREE THINGS EVERY SERVANT NEEDS TO KNOW

4. THE EXAMINATION OF OUR SERVICE

It is our privilege to serve the Lord in all things. It is ours to please the Lord in loosing the latchet of a shoe; and to enjoy the expression of his favor therein. The servant of God is not serving at the same time another master; he has not been hired for occasional service; he abides in the service of his God, and cannot be about anything but his Master's business; he eats, he drinks, he sleeps, he walks, he discourses, he findeth recreation, all by the way of serving God. Serve the Lord with gladness.

Can you bear to be waited upon by a servant who goes moping and dejected to his every task? You would rather have no servant at all, than one who evidently finds your service cheerless and irksome.

• C. H. Spurgeon

Let's all put a priority on Service for God to better please our Lord.

FOUR PRINCIPLES OF SERVICE

Nehemiah 2:18-20; 4:15-17

- 1. <u>Selection</u> excludes all who have no portion, right, or memorial in God's City
- 2. <u>Specialization</u> "every one unto his work"
- 3. <u>Priority</u> HOME claims first priority (3:10, 23, 28, 30)
- 4. <u>Dependence</u> on God's Power, Strength, & Blessing (4:9; 6:9)

REASONABLE SERVICE FOR GOD

Romans 12:1 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

Notice the phraseology of this verse. Paul tells us that the yielding of our bodies to the Lord is our "reasonable service." The word "reasonable" comes from the same word from which we get our word "logic". So, first we see that yielding our bodies to the Lord is logical.

The word "service" also comes from a word which means "to perform sacred service." It has reference to the function the Levites performed in the Tabernacle and Temple. It is connected to the idea of worship. Therefore, that phrase means that yielding our bodies to the Lord is our "logical service of worship before the Lord." In other words, when we are totally yielded to Him in service, it is the highest form of worship that we can render!

Nothing says "I love you" to the Lord like a consecrated, dedicated, holy life, John 14:15; 21. With that in mind, let's all put a priority on Service this month to better please our Lord.

Three Things Every Servant Needs To Know Nehemiah 1

1-There Will Always Be Opposition To God's Work

2-The Best Response Is One Of Prayer

3-There Are Some Things Worth Fighting For

THE EXAMINATION OF OUR SERVICE

2 Corinthians 13:5 / 1 Corinthians 11:28 / 1 Corinthians 4:1-12 / I Corinthians 3:13

Introduction: The word "account" that Paul used is a bookkeeping term that speaks of taking inventory. Paul challenges other to take inventory of his work for God. Paul says, "Let a man so account of us" (Vs.1). He was saying, "You are welcome to take inventory of my life.

It is good for the heart and soul to take a spiritual inventory once in a while. The Bible speaks of taking such an inventory.

1. THERE IS AN EXAMINATION OF OUR SALVATION.

Nobody should serve God unless they know they are saved, genuinely born again!

We read in 2 Corinthians 13:5, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith." The word "examine" means to put something to the test, to scrutinize." We are to put our profession to the test of the Scriptures.

We should examine ourseles in the light of God's Word and ask, "Have I done what God said to be saved? Is my salvation based on what God said? Does my life bear the marks of a Biblical salvation?"

2. THERE IS AN EXAMINATION OF OUR CONSECRATION.

We read in 1 Corinthians 11:28, "But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup." The examination that Paul calls for is in reference and relation to the taking of the Lord's supper. He is calling for them to examine their hearts and life to see if there is anything that would cause them to take of the Lord's Supper unworthily.

The word "examine" speaks of putting to the test for approval. The purpose of such an examination is that we may take of the Lord's supper with clean hearts. We are to come to the Lord's table in an approved fashion. The Lord's supper is to be only taken by those who are consecrated to the Lord.

We should put our consecration to the Lord to the test. Is there any unconfessed sin in our life. We should examine our life to see if there is anything in our life that is displeasing to the Lord.

3. THERE IS AN EXAMINATION OF OUR DEDICATION.

1 Corinthians 4:1-12 brings to our attention an examination where Paul speaks of taking inventory of his dedication to God's work. If you were to take an honest inventory of your dedication to God, how would you answer the following questions:

Do I know the will of God for my life? Am I doing the will of God? Am I seeking to win others to Christ? Have I won others to Christ? Am I involved in God's work?

Someone has said that the Church is full of willing people. There are those who are willing to work and those that are willing to let them work. Which class would an honest inventory of your life put you in?

How would other "so account of us?" How would God "so account of us?" In I Corinthians 3:13 tells us that God keeps the books on our work, it should behoove us to take inventory of our Christian service.