

HERE TO SERVE GOD

What are you doing here? People often ask me if I am going to retire, and my consistent response is that “I serve at the pleasure of My Master.” He put me in, and He can remove me any time He pleases. He truly is Lord of the Church who puts people into position in the Church just as He pleases (Acts 20:28; 1 Cor. 12:18). But as long as we are here, we are here to serve God and His purposes. That’s the very reason for our existence.

As believers, we are God’s “workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works” (Eph. 2:10). Furthermore, “it is God who works in you both to will and do for His good pleasure” (Phil. 2:13).

If God truly lives in us, then He will be at work in and through us. Paul said to the Colossian Christians, “And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ” (Col. 3:23-24). Paul states this as a fact, “you serve the Lord Christ”.

Paul was convinced of the election of the Thessalonians based on their “work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope” (1 Thess. 2:3-4). We are not saved by work, labor, or perseverance, but they are the convincing fruit of salvation. FAITH is the root, FRUIT is the evidence!

Hebrews 11 is called the “Hall of Faith Chapter” because it chronicles a whole host of people who evidenced true faith in their lives. Throughout the chapter, we have the repeated refrain of “By faith,” they did this or that in demonstration of their faith. Without this kind of faith, it is IMPOSSIBLE to please God.

Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)

6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek [follow] Him.

True worshipers serve the Lord God. In Matthew 4:10 Jesus quoted from the OT saying, “You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve (cf. Deut. 6:13; 10:20; Josh. 24:14).

True believers are true worshipers, and true worshipers serve the Lord, not perfectly, not as consistently as we should, but certainly.

2 Corinthians 5:14–15 (NKJV)

14 For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died;

15 and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.