

TRUE CHRISTIAN SERVICE (2)

Introduction

As born-again ones, the power of sin is broken in us. The Holy Spirit lives within our spirits and we belong to God. We serve God now, not sin. However, at present the sin nature is still present with us. This sin nature is known as the flesh in the Bible. Our bodies are yet to be redeemed and still has a desire to do the evil deeds of the flesh. Our bodies are the only way the flesh may be able to express itself. Thereby the sin nature begs for the use of our body. It is up to us, in the power of the Holy Spirit, to say no to sin and not allow it to use our bodies. Instead we are to present our bodies to God, by the power of Holy Spirit for His use. How do we do this?

Stop Yielding Your Body to Sin and Yield it to God

We have the power to stop yielding the members of our bodies to sin and yield them unto God.

Romans 6:13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

Yield Equal Present

The Greek word translated *yield* in Romans 6:13, is the same Greek word translated *present* in Romans 12:1. We are to take our sin marred bodies and present them as living sacrifices unto God so that the members of it are used to serve God instead of sin.

Express God Instead of Sin

Thereby our expression in this life is one that exhibits God's will through us instead of the will of sin.

Romans 6:19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

This Makes Your Body Useful to God

Set Apart

This makes our bodies *holy* in the fact that they are completely set apart for service to God.

Well Pleasing

This makes our bodies *acceptable* (well pleasing) to God because they are performing righteous acts unto God instead of unrighteous acts unto sin.

This Is True Christian Service

Service from the Inside Out (Desire not Duty)

This is the way we serve God. *Service* is connected with priestly ministry to God. However, the Old Testament priest served God out of duty. Their service was an outward act only. Our service to God is *reasonable*.

The word "reasonable" is logikos, "rational, agreeable to reason, following reason." Thayer says, "the worship which is rendered by the reason or the soul." (Wuest Word Study)

Only Form of True Christian Service

Believers as New Testament priest serve God out of a desire which comes from within, from our born-again spirits. Presenting our bodies as *living sacrifices* is our *reasonable service* because living sacrifices are much more useful to God than dead ones. Presenting our bodies as living sacrifices unto God accurately reflects our new and true nature.

True Christian Service is only accomplished when you stop presenting the members of your body to serve sin and present them once and for all as a living sacrifice to the service of God.