

SERVING GOD IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

Doing your part in the church of the Lord Jesus Christ

Romans 12:3-6

Introduction

When you present your body to God, your service to Him is to be marked by humility and faith in God. You become just one of many in the body of Christ. You are to focus only on doing your part that God has gifted you to do in the body of Christ.

In Humility

[3] For I say, By the authority of an Apostle of The Lord Jesus Christ.

through the grace given unto me, By the power of God.

to every man that is among you, Unto all the believers.

not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; There is no place for pride in service to God.

Pride is what made Lucifer the devil.

Isaiah 14:12-14 (KJV) How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

The Five I Will's of Lucifer

*13 For thou hast said in thine heart, **I will** ascend into heaven, **I will** exalt my throne above the stars of God: **I will** sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: 14 **I will** ascend above the heights of the clouds; **I will** be like the most High. (emphasis mine).*

God hates pride.

Proverbs 6:16-19 (KJV) These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: 17 A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, 18 An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, 19 A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.

God fights against the proud.

James 4:6 (KJV) But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

According to The Measure Faith

but to think soberly,

according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. We have no place for pride.

Every good thing that we have has been given to us by God.

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

God gives us faith for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 (KJV) For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

God gives us faith for service.

1 Corinthians 4:7 (KJV) For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?

As Gifted by God

[4] For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: Our human bodies are made up of many different parts. Each one has been equipped to do a specific task.

There are many of us.

[5] So we, The members in the body of Christ.
being many,

We work together as one.

are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. Many of us working together as one body in Christ.

[6] Having then gifts Just as in the human body each part has a function, so in the body of Christ we are each gifted by God out of His grace to perform a different function that together we may be complete.

In the Old Testament man gave gifts to God.

Exodus 28:38 (KJV) And it shall be upon Aaron's forehead, that Aaron may bear the iniquity of the holy things, which the children of Israel shall hallow in all their holy gifts; and it shall be always upon his forehead, that they may be accepted before the LORD.

In the New Testament men gave gifts to God.

Matthew 2:11 (KJV) And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

Now God has given gifts to each member of His church.

Ephesians 4:8 (KJV) Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

differing

1Co 12:4-6 (KJV) Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

according to the grace that is given to us,

1 Corinthians 12:7 (KJV) But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

Ephesians 4:7 (KJV) But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

whether prophecy, let us prophesy If God has gifted you with the ability to prophesy, then you are to be prophesying.

according to the proportion of faith; Our spiritual gift is exercised in proportion with the faith that God has given to each of us for service. See verse 3. So then, it is by grace that God gifts us with a spiritual ability. God expects us to operate within the sphere of our giftedness. We operate according to the measure of faith that God has given to us. To operate beyond this faith is sin. *...for whatsoever is not of faith is sin. (Romans 14:23).*

Conclusion

Just as the members of your human body each serve a different, yet important function, working together as one; also do you as a member in the body of Christ. We dedicate our bodies to God's service as individuals, but we do not serve God individually, but together as one body. You are not to pridefully see yourself as a "one man show" for God. You are to see yourself as you truly are, just a small part of the big picture. Then you can focus on serving God in the body of Christ doing your part as God has gifted and equipped you to do.