

What Am I Worth To The Lord?

Worth means “the quality of a person or thing that lends importance to a person or thing and is measured by the esteem placed on it.” So worthy means having value or worth. When I look at God, I realize that He needs nothing (Acts 17:24-25). I also see myself as someone who is not worthy to be a disciple (Matthew 3:11; 8:8; Isaiah 6:5). But God’s view of us is different. He chose us (1 Peter 2:4). He loved us enough to send His Son (Romans 5:8; 8:3). Therefore, we have worth to the Lord. He has work for me to do. He has a use for me (Ephesians 2:10). How can I be of worth to the Lord?

I can be of worth to the Lord by being useful for His purposes. Paul wrote, “But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master’s use, and prepared unto every good work” (2 Timothy 2:20-21). To do so, I must purge out all that is dishonorable (Romans 1:24). I must learn to overcome temptation and put to death sin (Colossians 3:5). Sin can no longer reign in my mortal body (Romans 6:6-7, 12). I must also be ready for every good work (2 Thessalonians 3:13).

I can be of worth to the Lord by spreading His word. The Corinthians were told, “But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us” (2 Corinthians 4:7). It is our duty to teach (2 Timothy 2:2). Every Christian is a preacher or proclaimer, as seen in Acts 8:4 when the persecution of the church reached its highest level. We may not be able to do everything, but we can do our best to invite, warmly greet a visitor, or go see someone who recently visited our congregation.

I can be of worth to the Lord by dispelling darkness. I am a child of light. Paul said, “Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober” (1 Thessalonians 5:5-6). And I must let the light received from Christ shine. My example is important as I hold forth the word (Matthew 5:16; Philippians 2:14-16). Sin will cause me to lose my soul, tarnish my reputation, and harm my congregation’s chances to talk to the lost.

I can be of worth to the Lord by remaining firm and steadfast. After assuring the Corinthians of their victory over death through Christ, he exhorted,

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58). The doctrines of men can toss me to and fro, but I can resist and be strong (Ephesians 4:14). Digressions in doctrines like divorce and remarriage, fellowship and the misuse of Romans 14, and the creation account have all risen among brethren in the last several years.

I can be of worth to the Lord by faithful worship and service. All have to worship in spirit and truth, for this was the command of Jesus to the woman at the well in Samaria (John 4:24). Is my observance of the Lord's Supper worthy of His great sacrifice? Am I examining myself appropriately and eating in a worthy manner (1 Corinthians 11:28-29)? Is my faithfulness in attendance worthy of the Lord? Am I forsaking the assemblies of the church when I really could push myself and be there (Hebrews 10:25)? Is my giving worthy of the love He showed me? Am I giving cheerfully and liberally (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)? Is my singing and attentiveness to teaching worthy of all the benefits I have received? Am I singing from the heart for the purpose of teaching and admonishing my brethren (Colossians 3:16)? Whatever I do, it ought to be worthy of Him because He has done so much for me.

Some judge themselves unworthy of the Lord by rejecting His word, just like the Jews did when they rejected the preaching of Paul and Barnabas (Acts 13:45). This is a fatal error. Accept the word gladly today like the people of Pentecost in Acts 2:41. After obeying the gospel, some who fall away are worthy of the worst kind of punishment. The Hebrew writer warned: "For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries" (Hebrews 10:26-28). Today, like that prodigal son, recognize that you are no more worthy to be called God's son and return. The loving father, like the one in the parable, is ready and waiting on your decision (Luke 15:20-21).

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