

Will A Man Rob God?

Introduction. A thief finds something he wants, plans a way to get it, comes when someone is not prepared, and escapes with the goods (Luke 12:39). It may be an efficient plan, but no man can rob God (Malachi 3:8). He is all-knowing, all-seeing, and all-powerful (Hebrews 4:13). In Malachi 3:8, the prophet specifically is addressing offerings, but we will study other ways a man can rob God.

I. **Will A Man Rob God Of Reverence? -- (Hebrews 12:28)**

- A. Thankfulness (Romans 1:21; Ephesians 5:20; James 1:17).
- B. Honor (Malachi 1:6-8; Romans 8:7; 10:21).
- C. Godliness (1 Timothy 6:11; 2 Timothy 3:5).

II. **Will A Man Rob God Of Authority? -- (Matthew 28:18)**

- A. In the world.
 - 1. God rules in the kingdoms of men (Daniel 4:32).
 - 2. We are subject to God's authority through the civil government (Romans 13:1-7).
- B. In the church.
 - 1. Christ is the head of the church, and we respect His authority (Ephesians 1:18-23).
 - 2. Churches are drifting because they refuse to follow the pattern in the Bible (1 Corinthians 4:6; 2 Timothy 1:13; Hebrews 8:5). Let the church be the church.
- C. As an individual.
 - 1. We are under the rule of the king while in His kingdom (1 Corinthians 11:3).
 - 2. Jesus gave us an example of how to live (John 13:15; 1 Peter 2:21).

III. **Will A Man Rob God Of Service? -- (Luke 17:7-10)**

- A. God.
 - 1. God wants worship from one's heart (Psalm 5:7; 29:2; 89:7; Ecclesiastes 5:1).
 - 2. Vain worship follows the traditions of men (Colossians 2:8, 20-23; 1 Timothy 4:3).
- B. Others.
 - 1. Neighbors (Matthew 7:12; Luke 10:25-29).
 - 2. Brethren (Galatians 6:1; 1 Peter 2:17).
 - 3. Family (Proverbs 31:15, 21, 27; 1 Timothy 3:4).

C. Self.

1. Thoughts (Matthew 15:18-19).
2. Entertainment (Mark 4:19).
3. Speech (Ephesians 4:29).

Conclusion. It takes a bold person to try and steal from the Lord. The Lord expects and demands reverence, authority, and service from us, just like the Old Testament offerings. But too many times we rob God of what He rightly deserves.