

Motivated

TEXT: Josh. 24:15

INTRODUCTION:

- A. WHY DO SOME CHOOSE NOT TO SERVE GOD?
 - 1. Ignorance? (**Eph. 4:17-18**; **Gal. 4:8**).
 - 2. A lack of motivation? (**Rom. 2:4**).
- B. DO WE NEED MORE TEACHING OR MOTIVATION?
- C. WHY DO YOU SERVE?

I. SOME SERVE TO PLEASE OTHER PEOPLE (**Gal. 1:10**).

- A. CHILDREN PLEASING THEIR PARENTS IS GOOD (**2 Tim. 3:14-15**; **Eph. 6:1**).
- B. WE MUST NOT OFFEND IN THE MATTER OF LIBERTIES (**Rom. 15:1-3**).
- C. BUT WHAT IS OUR PURPOSE? (**1 Thess. 2:3-4**).
- D. DOING RIGHT WILL NOT MAKE US POPULAR (**Luke 6:26**; **John 15:18-20**).
- E. PLEASING MEN WILL TURN US FROM THE TRUTH (**Gal. 1:10**).

II. SOME SERVE FOR MATERIAL GAIN.

- A. THERE IS MONEY TO BE MADE (**1 Tim. 6:3-5**).
- B. THERE ARE LUSTS TO FULFILL (**2 Tim. 3:5-7**; **2 Pet. 2:1-2**).
- C. THERE IS POWER TO BE HAD (**3 John 9-11**; **Matt. 23:2-4**).
- D. BUT TRUTH IS SACRIFICED (**Rom. 16:17-18**).
- E. SO MUCH MORE CAN BE OURS (**Matt. 6:19-21**; **Act 3:5-6**).

III. MOTIVATIONS USED IN THE BIBLE.

- A. FEAR.
 - 1. Healthy respect (**Acts 13:16**; **Acts 10:2, 35**).
 - 2. Afraid (**Heb. 10:31**; **Matt. 10:28**; **2 Cor. 5:11**).
 - 3. Extreme care in what we do (**1 Pet. 1:17**).
 - 4. Like a Father and child (**Heb. 12:9-10**).
 - 5. Fear overshadowed by love (**1 John 4:18**).
- B. REWARD.
 - 1. The NT speaks of Great Reward (**Matt. 5:12**; **Mark 10:29-30**).
 - 2. Spoken of in different terms (**1 Thess. 4:17**; **Rom. 8:17-18**).
 - 3. We are encouraged to look for this reward (**2 Cor. 4:18**; **Col. 3:1-2**).
- C. DUTY (**Luke 17:10**)..
 - 1. BEHOVE, *opheilo* "to owe," is once rendered "behave," **Heb 2:17**; it indicates a necessity, owing to the nature of the matter under consideration See BOUND, DEBT, DUE, DUTY, INDEBTED, MUST, NEED, OUGHT, OWE. (*Vine*)
 - 2. What man is (**Ecc. 12:13-14**).
 - 3. The sense of what is right is appealed to (**Rom. 2:4**; **Rom. 12:1**; **Gal. 2:20**).
Just, righteous, one who is such as he ought to be (Thayer).
 - 4. Our desire (**Luke 18:13-14**).
 - 5. A sense of honor and duty are proper motivation.
- E. MOTIVATION MUST BE COMPLETE (**2 Cor. 5:17**)..

1. It involves a new perspective (**Col. 3:1-2**)
2. It involves a new striving (**Phil. 1:27**).
3. It involves a sacrifice of self (**Luke 14:26-27, 33; 2 Cor. 8:5**).
4. How much are we loved?
 - a. **John 3:16; Rom. 5:8-10**.
 - b. **John 15:13-14**.
5. That love demands something of us (**2 Cor. 5:14-15**).
 - a. **1 John 4:9-10, 19**.
 - b. **Matt. 22:37**.

CONCLUSION:

A. TWO THINGS I DESIRE:

1. In this life (**Psa. 27:4**).
2. When this life is over (**Luke 18:14**).

B. THEY CAN BE OURS IF WE DO WHAT GOD WANTS.