

# The Rewards of Glad and Joyful Service

**“Because thou servedst not the LORD thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things; Therefore shalt thou serve thine enemies which the LORD shall send against thee, in hunger, and in thirst, and in nakedness, and in want of all things: and he shall put a yoke of iron upon thy neck, until he have destroyed thee” (Deuteronomy 28:47-48).**

Bulletin VCM-012

8 May 2011



“Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a **cheerful giver**” (2 Corinthians 9:7)

The statement “attitude is more important than facts” finds application in many areas of life including Christian service. Just like attitude towards a person reflect our value, respect and estimation of the person, so also does the attitude towards divine service. Willingness of obedience is evidenced by joy and gladness in divine service. The text reveals that a right service rendered with a wrong attitude is rejected and brings divine judgment. Similarly:

1. “Cursed be he that doeth the work of the LORD deceitfully...” (Jeremiah 48:10)
2. “For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me” (1 Corinthians 9:17).
3. Michal despised David’s joyful dancing and was divinely judged with bareness till death (2 Samuel 6:20-23).

God deserves willing service. “The gold for things of gold, and the silver for things of silver, and for all manner of work to be made by the hands of artificers. And who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord?” (1 Chronicles 29:5). The right response is reflected by:

1. “I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD” (Psalms 122:1).
2. “And he said, Come with me, and see my

zeal for the LORD...” (2 Kings 10:16).

The earthly family is God’s model of the church. When all family members help out one another and faithfully discharge their duties, it facilitates progress, wellbeing, health, success and happiness. In God’s family, every member has the potential of becoming a somebody. Therefore long term disability is not the norm for living. Mary Magdalene who was freed from seven demons later became a valuable asset in Christ’s ministry, and so can you! There is time for everything:

1. When children are growing up they require extra care, support and provisions e.g. taking them to school / for shopping, training / supervising them in feeding, washing, cooking, etc but as they grow older they master these and do them on their own. The same applies to spiritual development.
2. When young, parents take care of children, but when older, the role reverses as children take care of parents. The same applies in the church. When the older generation becomes too frail for active service, they take the back seat role to cheer on and support the younger generation who assumes leadership responsibilities.

Right attitude enables learning and facilitates growth to maturity, success and usefulness.