



# Potentials Of Single Minded Commitment

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The requirements for serving God and those for serving mammon are diametrically opposed one to the other. Satisfying them at the same time is like trying to run forward and backward - all at the same time. These are mutually exclusive events with probability of zero. So, when Jesus said "No man can serve two masters", he was simply stating the obvious, that some may be blind to, through bias.

There are situations where a clear cut and consistent decision on loyalty and allegiance is indispensable. For such situations, sitting on the fence will not do. Jesus said in Matthew 12:30 "He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad".

There are two gates and two ways leading to two exact opposite destinations. You cannot enter in through one gate and end up walking on the other road all at the same time. Changing the end destination require retracing ones steps and starting a completely new journey. Note Jesus statement in Matthew 7:13-14 "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it".

In the natural, sometimes a mixture of different things may sometimes produce better results than the individual ones. However, we need to understand that this is not always the case in the spiritual matters as evidenced in these scriptures.

- 1) Hosea 7:8-9 Ephraim, he hath mixed himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned. 9 Strangers have devoured his strength, and he knoweth it not: yea, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not.
- 2) 2 Kings 17:24-25 And the king of Assyria brought men from Babylon..., and placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel: and they possessed Samaria, and dwelt in the cities thereof. 25 And so it was at the beginning of their dwelling there, that they feared not the Lord: therefore the Lord sent lions among them, which

slew some of them.

Attempting to mix the worship of the true God with that of mammon (a spiritual syncretism) results in the loss of divine acceptance. Jesus was not mincing words when He declared in Revelation 3:16 "So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth". In His great sermon, Jesus warned "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Matthew 7:21-23).

In these last days, when it is very tempting to compromise on the truth for the sake of pleasing people, it is necessary to remember that:

- 1) It is only those who endure to the end that shall be saved (Matthew 10:22)
- 2) "... if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ" (Galatians 1:10).

A decision to serve God, will ultimately precipitate a similar decision not to serve mammon. In his powerful message to the Israelites, Joshua challenged them: "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord... 20 If ye forsake the Lord, and serve strange gods, then he will turn and do you hurt, and consume you, after that he hath done you good... 23 Now therefore put away, said he, the strange gods which are among you, and incline your heart unto the Lord God of Israel" (Joshua 24:15,20,23).

In the words of Jesus "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. **Ye cannot serve God and mammon**" (Matthew 6:24).