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For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.  
*Romans 10:13*

Promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Inner City.

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the **SOUWINNER** *One soul at a time*

# It is Your Reasonable Service

## Should We Be Proud of Our Duties to God?

A good Bible-believing Baptist church will encourage us to do works for God, especially soul winning. We will be inspired to read the Bible, pray, come to church and help others. But is it safe for us to boast about the things we do, or to consider it some special duty to God whereby we should be blessed extensively? What is our reasonable service?

Jesus gives the parable in [Luke 17:7-10](#) about he servant who comes in from serving his master in the fields and then, before he can eat himself a well-deserved meal— he must serve his master’s meal first. And his master did not toil in the field all day like he did. The servant was only doing his duty. That is what God likens our service to, lest we get a big head of pride for all of our works.

If we look at the life of Paul the Apostle, we see that his was a life of devout service, and he was always placing others before himself. As a result of his fervency for the gospel and helping others, he was persecuted. In [2 Corinthians 11:16-32](#), Paul explains his sufferings. Paul is responsible for getting the gospel to all of Asia and he wrote many books in the New Testament. Paul healed illnesses and raised the dead. But in the end he told Timothy in [2 Timothy 4:6-8](#) that he finished the course, and he was humble about it. He said in Romans 12:1: *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.* As a living sacrifice a man is willing to obey God’s commands for service, and here we see that he should not seek glory for it.

I was out today September 20 and I saw an old man struggling with his walker. He said he needed a cab so I called one, then I preceded to give him the plan of salvation. He was very open to it, and he got saved! Praise the Lord! I wanted to help this man somehow and it turns out that now he is going to Heaven. He never asked me for any money. This is then my reasonable service for God. I should not expect anything special from God for it. It is something we all should be doing.

Serving God does not always give us the blessing we are looking for, and God sometimes has a will different than what we perceive. [The Martyrs of the Dark Ages](#) received torture and death for their steadfastness to God,

how would we liken that today? The Catholic Jesuits designed torture tools for them and it was the men, woman and children who received this hell upon their bodies. But the martyrs persisted for about 1,000 years arguing over things such as the nature of the infant baptism, indulgencies, the power of the pope, and other church doctrines. That is what they were tortured for—the differences between the beliefs of the Anabaptist and Roman Catholic churches. And they were not seeking glory from men for their works.

The humble Christian is one who takes a stand on what he believes and practices it to please God and not to boast to others about his good works. Once we know what our duties are we can begin to adjust our life around those duties to be sure we are pleasing God. Soul winning should be one of those duties, whether it



Paul the Apostle, shown here on his way to Nero for a beheading, spent about 60 years of his life serving God as an Apostle. He was tortured several times, imprisoned and hated by many people, but he endured until the end. Paul wrote a good portion of the New testament, and he was the greatest soul winner that ever lived outside of Jesus Christ. But in the end he said that all he ever did was his reasonable service, and he never sought a reward for it.



The Bible outlines a great many duties for us as Christians as well as laws for us to live by. Following these commandments brings us blessings and prevents cursing by God. But should we be boasting about our service to God and otherwise expecting some extensive blessing? Paul makes it clear in Romans 12:1 that we should present our bodies a living sacrifice...which is our reasonable service.

be on your own or as a group with the church. There should be at least one hour in one day devoted to soul winning each week, but more often is preferred.

The duty of soul winning is a reasonable service and it does not guarantee God will do anything special for us if we go. God will keep us in his will— **whatever** that will is for us— as he promises. We have to learn to do our reasonable service without expecting anything special in return, even though we might get it.

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