

## God or Gold?

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by Wayne Goff

Recently I came across this question: “Would you do for GOLD what you would do for GOD?”

The meaning of this question is pretty obvious. We sometimes get discouraged and disheartened in our Christian lives. Responsibilities of studying, worshiping, attending, teaching, etc. can seem to be hard at times. Or it might be that we are getting caught up in the cares of the world, and we just don't have the time to do those things that are spiritual service.

So ask yourself a few of these questions:

- **Would you attend every service of the church if you were paid \$100 to come?**
- **Would you teach a Bible class if you were paid to do it?**
- **Would you share the Gospel with more people if you were paid per person?**
- **Would you contribute more to the church if you received a guaranteed financial return?**

If any of these questions leads you to reluctantly answer “Yes,” then you need to re-examine yourself, 2 Corinthians 13:5. Because if you would do for GOLD what you would not do for GOD, then there is a serious problem!

We all need to be reminded of the eternal value of our service to God. Jesus asked if a man would sacrifice his soul for this world's goods, Matt. 16:26. We know that we should love God with all our hearts, and we know that we should love our neighbor as ourselves (Matt. 22:37-39), but sometimes we don't see the value to these things! After all, loving God and man won't buy me a new car, or a new iPad, or pay my many burdening bills!

I know I need to go to church, worship God, give as I've been prospered, and encourage the saints -- but what shall I receive in return? Peter asked Jesus this question: “See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?” (Matt. 19:27).

Brethren and friends, listen to Jesus' answer and remember it: “everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life” (Matt. 19:29). God will repay you one hundred times over for your service and eternal life! Take the time to read 2 Corinthians 9:8-11, as well as Malachi 3:10, Acts 9:36, 1 Corinthians 15:58 and consider their true meaning.

Finally, ask yourself one more question: “Would I rather be rich in GOLD or rich in GOD?”

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