

## IS THE CHRISTIAN HIRED OR PURCHASED?

### 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

**Introduction:** It is sad that some people think that they are doing God a favor by attending Church services. Some think that they should be patted on the back for giving their Church a bit of their time while others make sure that everybody knows just how much they are doing in the Church. There are those who make it very plain that they have had to give up something in order to do whatever they are doing. There are always those who whine, offering one pitiful excuse after another for not doing what they should be doing for the Lord.

Many Church members act as if they were "hired-out" by Jesus instead of being "purchased servants." They act as if they can go to work for Jesus if and when they want and quit when the notion strikes them. They act as if they are on some glorified "welfare" program.

There is going to come a "great awakening" to those who think that they can turn Jesus on or turn Him off when they want and that they can "go along for the ride" without buying a ticket. Here's a big fact: The Christian is NOT without obligations. The Christian is the SERVANT of the Lord Jesus Christ.

- In his Roman letter, Paul calls himself the "servant" of Jesus Christ.
- In his Colossian letter, Paul speaks of Epaphras as a "servant" of Christ.
- In 2 Peter, Peter calls himself the "servant" of Christ.
- In Jude, Jude calls himself the "servant" of Christ.
- In 2 Timothy, Paul tells Timothy that the "servant" must be gentle.
- In James, James calls himself, a "servant" of God.

Christian! You have been PURCHASED!

### I. THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "HIRED" AND "PURCHASED"

1. "Hired:" To engage the temporary use of - to engage to do something for payment - to engage the services or labor of for payment.
2. "Purchased:" To acquire by any kind of equivalent- the action of obtaining.

### II. THE CHRISTIAN HAS BEEN "PURCHASED"

1. Jesus has purchased the Christian.
  - The price was the death of Jesus.
  - Jesus hung on the cross in shame, disgrace, pain and suffering. He didn't have to but He did.
  - His blood flowed, washing sin away, making pure and holy and acceptable the believer.
2. The believer is therefore a "servant" to Jesus by virtue of having been purchased by Jesus Christ.
  - The believer's mind belongs to Jesus.
    - All his/her ideas, decisions, attitudes.
  - The believer's body belongs to Jesus, therefore he/she is responsible for his/her:
    - Appetite, comforts, words, work, ears, eyes, steps.
  - The means of making a living belongs to Jesus Christ.

- The time involved, how money is spent.
- Everything the believer is involved in belongs to Jesus Christ.

## CONCLUSION:

1. Jesus has said that "*...one should count the cost of following him before committing himself..*"
2. Sad, but true, there are countless who are "numbered" among believers who never stopped to count the cost and are not even aware that there is a responsibility involved in being a Christian.
3. True, it is "easy" on our part to be saved, IF ONE TRULY WANTS TO BE SAVED! Jesus said that He wants no insincere followers. He said that faithfulness on the believer's part will give limitless power. Jesus has said that nothing less than TOTAL commitment is satisfactory.
4. Considering the ratio of Church members to attendance and giving records of Churches, it is very clear that not everyone who has said "Lord, Lord" is a genuine Christian.
5. Christian! You are not your own anymore. You have been bought and you belong totally, completely, entirely to Jesus. Your total existence belongs to Him.
  - Christian, we are servants, not hired hands or volunteers of Jesus Christ. What He commands, we are to do, without question, instantly, with all our strength.
6. It may appear that "pretenders" of being a Christian are getting away with their falseness, but remember, God knows all things and one day every single person will stand before almighty God in judgment and the truth will be made known.
7. Have you been pretending to be a Christian or are you serious and genuine. Your actions and works for the Lord Jesus reveal how true a believer you really are.
8. If you are not a Christian but have thought about it, know that Jesus demands your all, not just some here and there, but your total surrender. If you are willing to give Him your total self, then He can give to you eternal life and bring you into God's Family.