

Not Looking For The Free Ride

I. Introduction:

A. Jesus came into this world to give His life a ransom for many (**Mark 10:45**).

1. He gave Himself for us (**Galatians 1:3-4**).
2. We have redemption through Him (**I Peter 1:18-19**).
3. People have been confused because of Jesus dying for them in the past (**Romans 6:14-15**).
4. Could it be that some today might get some sense of entitlement now? Could some have a “Jesus did and will do it for me” mentality?

B. Our Lord does not desire that man think His death for us means that we are free from all responsibility (**I Corinthians 6:20; 7:23**, and **Titus 2:11-14**).

1. Jesus didn't die so that we can have it our way (**Romans 6:13**, **Romans 14:7-9**, and **II Corinthians 5:14-15**).
2. Now that we [Christians] are free from sin... (**Romans 6:22**).
3. Now let's parlay those thoughts into thoughts about life in general.

II. Body: Looking Beyond Just Our Own Benefit (**Philippians 2:3-8**).

A. Abraham didn't take the free burial site (**Genesis 23:1-20**).

1. Abraham wasn't a man looking to get a free ride (**Genesis 14:21-15:1**).
2. There is a principle that was taught after Abraham's life was long over, but one that this example brings to mind (**Proverbs 13:11**).
3. When you do it yourself, it is your accomplishment (**Galatians 6:4**).

B. King David had the opportunity to get a free offering to give to the Lord, but he wasn't looking for that (**II Samuel 24:18-25**).

1. Giving was/is centered around what one is able to give and one's prosperity (**Deuteronomy 16:17**, **I Corinthians 16:1-2**, and **II Corinthians 8:12**).
2. God never wanted leftovers or something that didn't matter to the one doing the giving (**Proverbs 3:9** and **Malachi 1:7-13**).
3. David did not accept someone else doing what he needed to do himself (**Galatians 6:5**).
4. Consider how Jesus looked at those who gave what didn't matter to them at all (**Luke 21:1-4**).

C. There are many Scriptural principles that teach us not to be freeloaders...

1. Work for your own wages (**I Thessalonians 4:11-12**, **II Thessalonians 3:12**, and **I Timothy 5:18**).
2. Being a giver to those who really have needs rather than a taker (**Psalms 112:5-9** and **Ephesians 4:28**).
3. Maintaining good works (**Titus 3:8; 3:14**).

4. Whether it is spiritual or physical work, not being weary in well-doing (**Galatians 6:9** and **II Thessalonians 3:13**).
5. Not being lazy spiritually or physically (**Proverbs 21:25** and **Hebrews 6:12**).
6. The virtuous woman's work of her own hands (**Proverbs 31:30-31**).
7. What will our judgment be based upon (**Matthew 16:27** and **Revelation 2:23**)?
8. The list could go on and on... Think about that. Someone carrying you does not equal you doing the work!

III. Conclusion: Whether it is in this life or the life to come, you have to put in YOUR OWN work to get the reward (**I Corinthians 3:8** and **Revelation 22:12**).