

## Not Purloining

### I. Introduction:

A. Faithful Christians are servants of the Lord (**Romans 6:22** and **Colossians 4:12**).

1. Not servants as they were under the Law of Moses (**Galatians 4:1-7**).
2. We are purchased servants of the Lord (**I Corinthians 6:20** and **I Corinthians 7:22-23**; cf. **I Peter 1:18-19**) to serve righteousness (**Romans 6:18**).

B. In instructions to carnal servants [slaves], they were instructed about “not purloining” and showing good fidelity [faith]; (**Titus 2:9-10**).

1. There are applications to be made in talking about carnal servants and spiritual servants of the Lord (**Colossians 3:22-25**).
2. Purloining in **Titus 2:10** means “keep back” (Strong’s # 3557).
3. We see that word only in two other verses in the New Testament (**Acts 5:2-3**) and should consider it’s meaning from that context (**Acts 4:34-5:11**).
4. Does real faith cause one to hold back from serving God (**Romans 1:17** and **Hebrews 11:1-40**)?

### II. Body: Don’t Keep Back From What Is Your Service To Do (**Romans 12:11**, **Romans 14:8**, **II Corinthians 5:14-15**, and **I Peter 4:1-2**).

A. This level of service starts with proper focus (**Mark 12:28-34**).

1. Don’t have a divided heart (**Hosea 10:1-2**).
2. Have a devoted heart (**Psalms 119:2**).
3. A divided heart won’t work (**Matthew 6:24**).

B. Realize holding back is a character trait of a thief (**John 12:1-8**).

1. God has granted you abilities to use for His glory (**I Peter 4:11**).
2. If you prevent God’s work from being done you’re a thief (**Jeremiah 23:30**; cf. **Ephesians 4:25**).
3. Have you held back something you can be doing for the Lord (**Hebrews 6:7-12**)?

C. Don’t expect a servant’s reward if you’re not serving (**Luke 12:36-48**).

1. Our reward is based upon our work (**Revelation 22:12**).
2. God does favorably reward no work (**Luke 19:11-27**).

### III. Conclusion: At the same time, even when doing all your rightful duties to God, don’t think more of it than what it is (**Luke 17:7-10**).