

Romans 4:4

Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt.

So many times we are asking ourselves, “What am I doing for the Lord?” which is a good thing to ask. But after we answer that question, we should also ask ourselves another question, and that is, “Why am I doing what I do for the Lord?”

We should ask ourselves if we are really doing it because our hearts are in the right place, or is it to find favor with the Lord or earn His forgiveness for something we have done that is not pleasing to Him. Simply put, we sinned and we are trying to make up for it by doing something for the Lord.

Kind of like a kid who does something wrong, so they actually clean their room or take out the trash or help around the house or do the dishes without being told to, just to show their parent’s that they messed up, but they are paying off what they did wrong by doing chores, which ties in with today’s devotional verse.

† *Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt.*

So let me ask you this, how much work do you have to do to pay off the debt of that sin you committed? Is there a certain amount God says to give to pay off your debt for that one sin you did?

Okay, let’s say you do pay off that one debt by doing several good works or giving to the poor a bunch of money. What about all the other sins you have committed just today, how much work or money would it take to pay those sins off?

If you owned all the gold in the world, would you offer it to God and say, “Okay God, I think this will cover it all.” I don’t think so, because you are determining how the debt of sin is being paid off. But have you considered asking God what the payment for sin is?

The bible tells us that money or works do not pay off the debt of sin, but rather blood does.

† **1 Peter 1:18-19** *knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.*

Only by the blood of Jesus Christ can we be truly cleansed from all our sins.

So are we trying to buy Jesus’ blood with money or earn it with our works? God and Jesus are not for sale and neither is the precious blood of Jesus. It’s given to you freely to those who ask.

† **Romans 6:23** **For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

† **Matthew 7:8** *For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.*