

## Seeking to Please Only Christ

"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men." Colossians 3:23

We find a plethora of passages in the New Testament calling attention to God's insistence that **we must serve Him on His terms, not ours.** For example, Jesus said, "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple,"<sup>1</sup> and "He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal."<sup>2</sup> Paul adds, "And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again."<sup>3</sup>

**A commonly held misconception in the body of Christ today is that every individual is free to determine what their relationship with Christ looks like.** Nothing in Scripture warrants such a conclusion. A lack of total surrender to the will of God is nothing more than saying, "I obey only what I agree with, and ignore the rest of His will." Such people seek to serve God on their own terms in order to be in control of their lives, **and thus have no biblical reason for believing that they are going to heaven.** Obviously I cannot judge the motives of others, but I confess that I grieve over what I see happening in the lives of people, and fear for their souls.

<sup>1</sup> Luke 14:26 <sup>2</sup> John 12:25 <sup>3</sup> II Corinthians 5:15