

THE BIBLE VIEW

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You're Not Your Own

Bill Brinkworth

"For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." I Cor. 6:20 Also: I Cor. 7:23

My car has no right to roll down the driveway on its own to take a joyride. I bought it. I paid for the gas that can keep it running. Regularly, I see that it is washed and maintained. It is my car.

However, one day the vehicle could roll down the driveway. You can count on it being demolished and little good for transportation. It needs a good driver to keep it from being a wreck.

Likewise, so many misuses the free will God gave them after getting saved and live for themselves. It is not long until they look at their wrecked, broken life and wonder what they did wrong.

What they did wrong is not to let their heavenly Driver be the One directing. They forgot that it is God they should be living for and obeying. His guidance and direction are always right. Ours are not.

Precious little Buddy also has no right to go where she wants. I rescued the Labrador from the pound, make sure she is clean, make sure she is fed well, see to her health, and walk her several times a day. She is my dog.

Buddy, if she desires, can run away, however. Chances are that it will not be long until she is starving, unhealthy, and without a safe place to live and be just like she was before I rescued her. Likewise, those purposely not living for Him will find their lives in a similar lacking condition.

Christian, you are also not your own to do as you selfishly see fit. When you accepted Christ as your Saviour, it was not because of anything you did to merit an eternity with Him. You are only saved because of what Jesus did for you so you could have a wonderful eternity, rather than the tormenting one in Hell that you deserve. You owe Him a lot!

Yes, we have a free will to do as we desire. God will never force us to obey or live for Him. He does not want marionettes. He wants us to love Him as He loves us. God wants us to make right decisions and to wisely chose Him as Lord of our life.

Our love is shown by our actions and attitudes. God hopes that our gratefulness will be shown by our faithfulness, obedience, and loyalty to Him.

“Consecration is signing your name to the bottom of a blank sheet and letting God fill in as He wills!” — Author Unknown

Utter Surrender

J. Hudson Taylor

Let us give up our work, our thoughts, our plans, ourselves, our lives, our loved ones, our influence, our all, right into His hand, and then, when we have given all over to Him, there will be nothing left for us to be troubled.

“In the Christian life, we must lose to gain; we must give to obtain; we must be last to be first; we must be humble to be exalted.” — Author Unknown

Consecrated

Charles Wesley

Consecration: “The act or ceremony of separating from a common to a sacred use, or of devoting and dedicating a person or thing to the service and worship of God, by certain solemnities. Consecration does not make a person or thing holy but declares it to be sacred, that is devoted to God or to divine service.”
Noah Webster’s American Dictionary of the English Language, 1828

If so poor a worm as I
May to Thy glory live,
All my actions sanctify,
All my words and thoughts receive;
Claim me for Thy service, claim
All I have, and all I am.

Take my soul and body’s powers;
Take my memory, mind, and will;
All my goods, and all my hours,
All I know, and all I feel;
All I think, or speak, or do;
Take my heart, but make it new.

Now, O God, thine own I am;
Now I give Thee back Thine own;
Freedom, friends, and health, and fame,
Consecrate to Thee alone.
Thine I live, thrice happy I.
Happier still if Thine I die.

Complete Surrender

W. McDonald, 1871

Entire consecration embraces three things: being, doing, and suffering. We must be willing to be, to do, and to suffer all that God requires. This embraces reputation, friends, property, and time. It covers body, mind, and soul. These are to be used when, where, and as God requires and only as He requires.

“Unless,” said a preacher, “the Christian is willing to make such a consecration, and unless he actually adds the execution of the thing to the desire or willingness to do it by a formal and decisive action, we can see no encouragement that he will reach the desired results of personal inward experience.” The pastor claims that such a consecration should be made deliberately without any reserve and in reliance upon Divine strength.

“So many put a habit, problem, or situation on the altar to let God handle it, but at the slightest provocation or temptation drag it off that same altar. If you give something to the Lord, don’t take it back.” — *Bill Brinkworth*

Put All on the Altar

W. McDonald, 1871

Perhaps there are no words which express more clearly the manner of performing this work than altar and sacrifice. We are required to offer our “... bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God”

We are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once and for all. Can one who seeks entire sanctification find language more expressive or appropriate than the following: “I bring all to God’s altar. Come, Lord, and accept my offering.

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.” *Romans 12:1*

Consecration and Sanctification

W. McDonald

There is a difference between consecration and sanctification. Consecration belongs to us. Sanctification to our faithful God. We cannot have the latter without the former.