



NO MURMURING OR GRUMBLING!

"Serve the LORD with gladness: come before His presence with singing." – Ps.100: 2

"...Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, (so let him give); not grudgingly, or of necessity for God loveth a cheerful giver." – 2Cor.9: 7

I believe you're familiar with that old school shout in the classroom by the teacher – 'No Murmuring!' What is murmur? There are about 30 verses in the Bible using the word "murmur". In the Bible the same word has the meaning to groan, to censure or to chide. In other verses it is used as "to complain, to gripe and to grumble. To murmur is to whisper, mutter and mumble. Usually, murmuring and grumbling go together. Murmuring is to speak softly and in low tones usually about people and things we disapprove of. Although, we may murmur and grumble about others, nobody likes it when others murmur or grumble about him or her.

A number of times we grumble and murmur when asked to carry out certain chores at home, assignments in school, at work or even in the Church. If we don't like it when others grumble and murmur when they serve us, we should know then much more that God dislikes us grumbling and murmuring about His work in our hands. As believers therefore, we must learn how to serve the Lord cheerfully with gladness and joy.

In Exodus 16, it's said four times that, "...the Lord hears your murmurings." If the average parent heard their child gripe and grumble, murmur and moan, many would apply the stick and stripes. They would not allow it to go on and on. Now God does move in and applies the stick and stripes too. All great men of Scripture derived joy in service – Noah, Abraham, Job, Joseph, Moses, David, Solomon, Daniel, Peter, James and John, Apostle Paul and the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. They were totally selfless and did not serve for personal gain or filthy lucre. Our joy in this world will be limited until we realize that true greatness lies in servant-hood and joy in service.