

**God needs no one's permission to work.
(Our Servant God).**

John 5:17. "My Father is working still and I am working".

We have been led to believe and indeed have been taught that it is correct that we should serve God. But, strangely enough we have once again got it back to front, for it is God who wishes to serve us. In one sense it is right that we serve God, but not in any sense of 'our' good deeds, or working for Him, even less in trying to help Him out with His plan. No, our service is to simply be available, and we are that, we are here.

As Jesus says above, "My Father is working and I am working". If I may use the following analogy, (and I know all human analogy can only give a poor example), but lets imagine God who, after all is the Source, the Power, let's just for a moment imagine the source in this case to be electricity. You cannot 'see' electricity, but we know it is there, especially if you were to hold the positive wire in one hand and the negative wire in the other, you'd know all right. But even more, we know electricity by its expression. We know it by the way it comes to us, whether it be through a streak of lightning, through a radio as sound, through a light bulb as light, or through a heater as warmth. In each case the implement is merely available, and the electricity comes through it. Well, who is the servant here? Who is working? Is it electricity that is working or is it the light bulb, radio, heater?

Well of course we would say, if the light is switched on, the light is working, wouldn't we, because we could 'see it'. We don't even say, 'the light bulb is working', just the light. We would not say, 'electricity is working', just, that the light is working. Well the light is doing its job, sitting in its socket, being available to the electricity, and no sooner is the switch thrown than the electricity streams through. Nobody or nothing had to ask permission of electricity to work, and electricity did not ask permission to come through, once the switch had been thrown. But there is that little annoying part in the middle of this process called the switch. There is always a switch to be thrown, heater, radio, T.V. Light bulb, or whatever. They all need the switch to be thrown. Where is the electricity prior to the switch being thrown? Has it disappeared? Has it become non-existent? Of course not, it is working, it is always working.

I hope from this that you can catch what Jesus meant when He said, My Father (electricity), is still working, and I (the light bulb), am working. What a beautiful picture of 'union', of fellowship, of teamwork. The electricity needs the light bulb, as much as the light bulb needs electricity, for with out either of them – 'no light' can be seen. But I think the important thing to be grasped, is that it is the actual electricity that is the servant. For the electricity serves the light bulb. The light bulb merely receives the power and shines. No effort required, just availability. The light bulb can take no glory for the light; it is merely available.

One of the last things Jesus did was to wash the feet of His followers. Now I am sure there is much meaning in what He did here, but one of the things that He is surely showing, is the nature of God and how He wishes to serve. Here are some more scriptures that show the importance of the 'servant' nature of God.

Luke 12:37. Blessed [are] those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them **to** sit down **to** meat, and will come forth and **serve** them.

Mat 23:11. But he that is greatest among you shall be your **servant**.

Mark 9:35. And he sat down, and called the twelve, and saith unto them, If any man desire to be first, [the same] shall be last of all, and **servant** of all.

So, to get back to the electricity analogy, we must not forget the very important part of the operation called 'the switch'. For whilst electricity works and the light bulb works. What about the switch? That seems to be separate and not linked to electricity or the light bulb, though it *is* linked, for it brings the two together. So what is it? (Do you see a trinity here)? I would like to suggest that 'the switch' is 'the spirit of faith', prayer even. Aligning oneself with the truth. For if electricity works, and the light bulb **IS** able to shine, then none of this can be seen or known, without the throwing of the switch; without the application of faith. After all no one would bother pressing the switch if there was no electricity in the house, or no light bulb in the socket. So we believe, (or at least hope), God is working, and we know we are available. So to **SEE** the reality of this union between your self and your true life, power, source – throw the switch – just believe. The result of doing this will result in your finding out, and then you too will be saying, "My Father is still working and I am working. Here I am Lord. Send me".