

**“BE YE STEADFAST AND UNMOVEABLE”**  
**I Cor. 15:58**

**INTRODUCTION:**

**1. The admonitions of this verse are based on the preceding facts.**

**(1) There is a resurrection of the dead. I Cor. 15:22**

**(2) If there were no resurrection of the dead, Paul would have admonished “*Let us eat and drink; for tomorrow we die*”... I Cor. 15:32**

**2. The Christian lives in HOPE of eternal life; he must be STEADFAST; he takes a position and does not waver from it – he is unmovable; he stands firm.**

**3. He is to be ALWAYS abounding in the Work of the Lord. I Cor. 15:58**

**(1) He is ALWAYS OBEYING. Phil 2:12**

**(2) He is ALWAYS PRAYING. Lk. 18:1; Eph. 6:18**

**(3) He is ALWAYS READY to give an answer. I Pet. 3:15**

**(4) He is ALWAYS REJOICING in the Lord. Phil. 4:4**

**4. He knows his “*labor is not in vain in the Lord*”...I Cor. 15:58**

**5. With this, and other admonitions to be faithful, many Christians are not steadfast and are moved.**

**(1) Paul was a man that let nothing move him. Acts 20: 24**

**6. Let us study some things that move us many times.**

**I. SPIRITUAL DESPONDENCY:**

**1. Despondency is to be downcast and disheartened.**

**2. God told Joshua to “*Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.*” Josh. 1:9 (dismayed, discouraged)**

**3. God says to us today: “*I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee, so that we may boldly say, the Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me*”... Heb. 13: 5 – 6**

4. Paul said, “*And let us not be weary in well-doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not*”...Gal. 6:9

5. Elijah became despondent when Jezebel sent a messenger to him telling him that she would have him killed just as he had killed the 450 priests of Baal. I Kings 19: 2, 4

6. God does not want us to become despondent. Phil. 4:4

## **II. THE FAILURE OF BRETHREN:**

1. Paul had to deal with false brethren. II Cor. 11:26; Gal. 2:4

2. Paul had to deal with Peter’s compromising attitude and actions. Gal. 2:11 – 16

3. Paul was forsaken by Demas, who loved this present world. II Tim. 4:10

4. Alexander the copper-smith did Paul much evil. II Tim. 4: 14 – 15

5. When Paul stood before a Roman court, all men forsook him. II Tim. 4: 14 – 18

6. Paul did not let the failure of brethren move him.

7. We must not let the failure of brethren move us today.

## **III. PROBLEMS IN THE CHURCH:**

1. Problems are going to always be in the church. I Cor. 11:19

2. God’s purpose for allowing heresies to occur is to manifest those who are approved. I Cor. 11: 19

3. Difficulties in the church provide an opportunity for Christians to demonstrate that they are genuine followers of the Lord.

4. God never intended that any man should move through life in a constant environment of encouragement and spiritual delight – our faith is going to be tested from time to time. James 1: 2 – 4

5. In any congregation, you will find some who do not follow the Lord with all of their heart – problems manifest who they are. Matt. 13: 21, 47 – 50

**6. They separate from true followers of Christ because they no longer are in sympathy with the cause of TRUTH. II Tim. 4: 2 – 4; I John 2:19**

#### **IV. UNJUST CRITICISMS:**

- 1. Both John and Jesus were criticized unjustly. Matt. 11: 18 – 19**
- 2. Paul was unjustly criticized. II Cor. 10: 10 – 11**
- 3. You will be unjustly criticized. Matt. 5: 11 – 12**
- 4. Don't let criticisms move you.**

#### **V. BECOMING DISCOURAGED BECAUSE WE LOSE OUR WORK IN THE LORD:**

- 1. Paul recognized this possibility:**
  - (1) To the churches of Galatia, Paul expressed this fear. Gal. 4:11**
  - (2) To the Thessalonians he expressed his concern. I Thess. 3:5**
  - (3) To the Corinthians, Paul deals with this. I Cor. 3: 13 – 15**
  - (4) To the Philippians. Phil. 2:16**
- 2. Jesus deals with the loss of work in the parable of the sower. Matt. 13: 19, 23**
- 3. We must not be moved when we lose our work.**

#### **VI. EVIL ASSOCIATIONS:**

- 1. Our associations have an influence on us. I Cor. 15:33; Prov. 1: 10 – 17**
- 2. Our associates influence us morally and doctrinally.**
- 3. Many are moved by their associations.**
- 4. We must not be moved by our associates. II Cor. 6:17**

#### **CONCLUSION:**

- 1. Let all of us determine to be steadfast and unmoveable.**
- 2. Let us not be discouraged and overcome by the forces of the Devil.**
- 3. Are you here and out of Christ?**

