

LET US NOT BE WEARY IN WELL DOING

Gal. 6: 7 - 9; II Thess. 3:13; Heb. 12:3

Sermon by Donald Townsley

INTRODUCTION

1. Paul used a figure from agriculture to teach a great lesson -- "*For whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap*" Gal. 6:7
2. We can see from verse 9 that Paul was concerned that some Christians would become DISHEARTENED and QUIT sowing to the Spirit.

I. EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD BE BUSY IN WELL DOING

1. Man has a choice regarding how to spend his life.
 - (1) He can "*sow to the flesh*"
 - (2) Or, "*sow to the Spirit*"
2. God would have us to devote our lives to sowing to the Spirit.
 - (1) Just as Jesus "*Went about doing good*" -- Acts 10:38
 - (2) Gal. 6:10
3. Christians should spend their lives DOING GOOD.
 - (1) We are created for good works -- Eph. 2:10; Tit. 3: 8; Tit. 2:14
 - (2) We are to be "*zealous of good works*" -- Tit. 2:14
4. There is a limited time for sowing to the Spirit, just as farmers have a limited time to plant.
5. Jesus said, "*I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day; the night cometh, when no man can work*" --John 9:4
6. We all have a limited time on earth to sow to the Spirit -- Rom. 13:11
7. There comes a time when it is too late to plant.

II. REASONS FOR CONTINUING IN WELL DOING

1. We reap what we sow -- Gal. 6:7
 - (1) The eternal reward of heaven is prepared for those who have spent their lifetime serving God by doing good -- Gal. 6:8; John 14: 1 - 6; I Cor. 15: 58
 - (2) Eternal punishment of hell is for those who sow to the flesh -- Gal. 6:8; Gal. 5: 19 - 21
 - (3) One cannot live the life of the wicked and die the death of the righteous -- Gal. 6: 7 - 8
2. To glorify God:
 - (1) God is glorified by a man's loyal obedience to His will -- Matt. 5:16
3. To make the church grow:
 - (1) We need to persevere in well doing to make the church grow numerically and spiritually.
 - (2) If we become disheartened and quit serving God, the church will decrease in size.

(3) Many congregations are suffering from disheartened saints who are "keeping house" for the Lord.

(1) They have little enthusiasm and zeal -- Tit. 2:14

4. To secure our own salvation -- Phil. 2: 12; I Cor. 15:58

III. CAUSES OF WEARINESS IN WELL DOING

1. CONFLICT with the ungodly world:

(1) Some people become tired of the continuous conflict with the ungodly world and give up the fight --
I Pet. 2:11

(2) Matt. 24: 12 "*And because iniquity shall abound the love of many shall wax cold*"

2. Because of the LARGENESS of the problems they face, many quit.

(1) Problems in the church

(2) Problems in the home

3. INGRATITUDE of those we serve -- II Cor. 4:5; II Cor. 12:15

(1) Many times what we do is a thankless work from man's standpoint.

(2) Jesus healed ten lepers and nine of them never returned to express gratitude -- Luke 17: 11 - 19

4. INDIFFERENCE of others who should be serving

(1) Some become discouraged and ready to quit because other Christians are not committed to serving.

(2) Some do not have enough interest to attend Bible classes, much less be interested in the work.

5. The SIZE OF THE TASK before us

(1) Sometimes when we perceive how much needs to be done in the local church we hesitate to begin.

6. OPPOSITION to plans to work.

(1) Where the local church is successful the devil will raise up opposition -- I Thess. 2:18; I Pet. 5:8

(2) When opposition comes, some will quit, not persevering in doing good.

7. FATIGUE because of heavy demands on one's time; because so few will work in a local church.

8. Some are COOLED in their efforts because of the coldness of other members.

9. Some grow weary of some who appear to be stable, but they show weakness and fall grievously in sin to our great amazement and sorrow.

(1) Peter -- Gal. 2: 11- 15

(2) Demas -- II Tim. 4:10

10. The WANT of spiritual nourishment

(1) I Pet. 2:2

(2) Heb. 5: 12 - 14

11. Some become weary because the church as a whole begins to LOSE ITS ZEAL and fire, and begins to wax cold -- Rev. 2: 4 - 5

12. FAILURE TO SEE results -- I Cor. 3: 6; Isa. 55:11

IV. REMEDY FOR WEARINESS IN WELL DOING

1. PRAY -- Luke 18:1

- (1) If you are becoming weary in well doing, recognize your sin and confess it to God -- I John 1:9
- (2) Resolve to do better.
- (3) Ask God to help you -- I Pet. 5:7; Heb. 13: 5 - 6

2. BIBLE STUDY

- (1) Encouragement comes from the word of God -- Rom. 15:4
- (2) It builds us up -- Acts 20:32
- (3) By the word we grow -- I Pet. 2:2; Heb. 5: 12 - 14

3. BROTHERLY ENCOURAGEMENT

- (1) The assemblies -- Heb. 10: 24 - 25
- (2) Heb. 3:13; I Thess. 5:14

4. TRUST in GOD'S PROVIDENCE

- (1) If the circumstances look unfavorable, accept the present as being in the hands of a just and loving God.
- (2) I Pet. 3:12; I Pet. 5:7; Phil. 4: 5 - 7; Matt. 6: 25 - 33
- (3) Busy yourself in doing God's will and trust Him to control the future.

CONCLUSION

1. I Cor. 15:58
2. Gal. 6:9

Hebron Lane 1989; Campbellsville, KY 1989; Rockford Lane, Shivley KY 1989; Moulton, AL 1990; Erwin, TN 1992; Crossville, AL 1995; River Bend 1995