

Work Honestly

“Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.” (Philippians 2:12-13)

At the beginning of the creation God created man on His image and He put him in the garden east of Eden and bestowed on Him all His glory and majesty. But man disobeyed God, therefore the Lord *“To Adam he said, ‘Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat of it,’ ‘Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.’” (Genesis 3:17-19)*

As a consequence of sins Adam has to work hard. God told him by the sweat of your brow you will eat your food. That is why all of us we have to work hard. But God is merciful to us, as we repent from our sins and make commitment to God to follow Him and walk in His ways, He will enable us to persevere and manage the hard work. God had sent His Son the Lord Jesus Christ, who died on the cross for our sins to bring us near to God. Adam brought us sin into the world, but Jesus brought us the blessings of God, the eternal life and life to the full with the Lord. As we follow Christ, we still need to work hard and do our best but He will bless us and He is the one to establish us and sustain us with His grace.

The Bible tells us the following: *“Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to win their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. ²³Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, ²⁴since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. ²⁵Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there is no favoritism.” (Colossians 3:22-25)* As we are still here in the world we work hard and obey our masters with sincerity of our hearts because we work for the Lord not for men. We need to serve obediently and honestly and we should think that we are serving the Lord and not the earthly masters, and there will be reward for doing so. Because hard work was put on us as a discipline, that is why certain times we make fuss, but God wants us to submit ourselves to His will and accept His discipline.

“Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.” (Philippians 2:12-13) We are saved by the grace of God, but after we are saved we are called to be God workmanship created in Christ Jesus to do the good work of God. What we received from the Lord that is the work of God in us. But we have to work it out and make it manifested in our lives. We are called to work with God and doing His will, so that God’s purpose, will and His plan in the world will be achieved through us. God had a good purpose for us so we have to cooperate with Him and be in line with His Word and His calling to us. In certain times you might be tempted and says ‘My job is not good, my manager is not good, my company is not good, etc.’ But you forget that you are serving God and you are under God’s power and under His law and order.

You may not like the message dear reader but that is God’s will for you in Christ our Lord. God called you to live your life working hard with God and for God. Therefore, *“Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. ⁶Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. ⁷Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, ⁸because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free.” (Ephesians 6:5-8)*

“⁴Do everything without complaining or arguing, ¹⁵so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe.” (Philippians 2:14-15) Because if we will grumble, argue, fight and quarrel in the places that we are working, then we are not different and we are not better than the non-believing and the depraved generation that is around us. If we behave like the wicked and we are careless workers where God had put us to work and be the light to others, then no more testimony will be there for God. What people around you will speak about Christ, Christianity and God that we worship if you are not a good worker in the place that God had assigned you to be? If we understand the truth in this way then life will become easy.

“Teach slaves to be subject to their masters in everything, to try to please them, not to talk back to them, ¹⁰and not to steal from them, but to show that they can be fully trusted, so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive.” (Titus 2:9-10) We can clearly understand that the whole idea behind that is to make the teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ attractive to others if they will found what we are and what we speak are the same. Then the message will go to them clear and with more conviction.

My Dear and Beloved: Sometime we are tempted to be dishonest when our rights are taken away, but we forget that we are serving God and God Himself will reward us for that. You must know and remember that there is God’s law about how masters should treat their slaves? *“And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him.” (Ephesians 6:9)* If the masters are wicked God will judge them, and we should be certain that God will give us back, sooner or later, what is due for us. Certain times you will be paid less, and you are tempted to work with less honesty, but how God will reward you and calculate the difference if you are not faithful to the work that you are working. God will calculate the difference and reward us at His perfect time if He would found us faithful, diligent, and being good testimony to Him. Therefore, *“Slaves, submit yourselves to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. ¹⁹For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God. ²⁰But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. ²¹To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.” (1 Peter 2:18-21)* Trust God for that as you agree to pray

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord I commit my life to you, I will abide with your calling to me and I will follow your steps and your Word. Enable me with your grace and help me to persevere in these matters, this is my prayer in Jesus name Amen.*