

## Abounding In The Work Of The Lord

1 Corinthians 15:58

## The Universality Of The Work

- ◆ "My beloved brethren"
  - Not elders only. 1 Peter 5:3
  - Not deacons only. cf. Acts 6:1-3
  - Not preachers only. 2 Timothy 2:15; 4:5

## The Universality Of The Work

- ◆ Every Christian must be a worker.
  - Parable of the talents. Matthew 25:14ff
  - Church as a body. Romans 12:4ff; 1 Corinthians 12:12ff
- Differences, but no exceptions. cf. Acts 8:4

## The Basic Requirement For The Work

- ◆ Conviction. cf. Daniel 3; Philippians 1:27; 1 Peter 3:15; Philippians 3:13-14
- ◆ Zeal. Titus 2:14; 3:1; Acts 9:20-29; Acts 16:10; Acts 21:10-13

## The Constancy Of The Work

- ◆ Always:
  - Let your speech be with grace. Colossians 4:6
  - Rejoice in the Lord. Philippians 4:4
  - Obey. Philippians 2:12
  - Be ready to give answer. 1 Peter 3:15
- Be urgent "in season and out of season." 2 Timothy 4:2

## The Fervor Of The Work

The Greek word "*abounding*" is an interesting study.

1. It is the word "*perisseuo*"; "to be over and above; to excel."
2. It is used of excelling others. cf. Matthew 5:20
3. It is used of exceeding the minimum. cf. Luke 15:17, "and to spare."
4. It is used of exceeding what was done in the past. Mark 15:14

## The Fervor Of The Work

- ◆ Our service must be abounding service.
  1. Abounding service is willing service. cf. Matthew 20:1-16 (11<sup>th</sup> hour man)
  2. Abounding service is fervent service. Romans 12:11 (heated to boiling)
  3. Abounding service is from the heart. Ephesians 6:6
  4. Abounding service is first place service. Matthew 6:33

## Motives For The Work

- The final resurrection. "Wherefore" connects with the preceding verses.
- a. Proof of the resurrection: The resurrection of Christ. Verses 12-19
  - b. Consequences if no resurrection: all is in vain. Verses 14-19
  - c. Nature of the resurrected body: Incorruptible, glorious, etc. Verses 35-49
  - d. In view of the fact that there will be a life beyond this work! The future life is reason for all to abound in the work of the Lord.

## Motives For The Work

- The final judgment. "Forasmuch" introduces the day of reckoning.
1. The judgment day will be a day of accounting. 2 Corinthians 5:10; Revelation 20:12
  2. The judgment day will be a day of reward. Galatians 6:9; 2 Timothy 4:6-8
  3. Our labor is not vain in the Lord.

## The Nature Of The Work

- ◆ Includes evangelism. cf. Matthew 9:35-38

### God's People Have Responsibility To Teach The Gospel To The Lost

#### Great Commission

##### Matthew 28:18-20

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.  
 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:  
 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

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#### Great Commission

##### Mark 16:15-16

15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to the whole creation.  
 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be damned.

**God's People Have Responsibility To Teach The Gospel To The Lost**

**Church is Pillar & Ground of Truth**

**1 Timothy 3:15**

15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how men ought to behave themselves in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

**God's People Have Responsibility To Teach The Gospel To The Lost**

**Early Disciples Spread the Word**

**Acts 5:28**

28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us

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**Early Disciples Spread the Word**

**Acts 8:4**

4 They therefore that were scattered abroad went about preaching the word.

**God's People Have Responsibility To Teach The Gospel To The Lost**

**Acts 11:19-20**

19 They therefore that were scattered abroad upon the tribulation that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phoenicia, and Cyprus, and Antioch, speaking the word to none save only the Jews.

20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus.

**God's People Have Responsibility To Teach The Gospel To The Lost**

- Great Commission
- Church is Pillar & Ground of Truth
- Early Disciples Spread the Word

*We Ought To Be Working To Convert The World!*

**God's People Have Responsibility To Teach The Gospel To The Lost**

- ◆ Includes personal edification. 2 Peter 1:5-11

## Edification

- ◆ For the church to grow, we must build up self!!!
- ◆ We grow or we die!!!

## Some Things In Which We Should Grow

- ◆ Grace and Knowledge. 2 Peter 3:18; 1:2; 2:20
- ◆ Christlikeness. Ephesians 4:15; Philippians 2:5; 1 Peter 2:21
- ◆ Judgment. Philippians 1:9; Hebrews 5:13-14; Philippians 1:10
- ◆ Character. Romans 1:18-32; Galatians 5:19-21; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

## Some Things In Which We Should Grow

- ◆ Spiritual Sacrifices. 1 Peter 2:5
- ◆ Faith & Love. 2 Thessalonians 1:3; John 13:35; 1 John 4:20ff
- ◆ Ability to serve. Romans 12:1-2; 6:13; 2 Timothy 2:21

## Some Things In Which We Should Grow

- ◆ Includes protecting our influence. Matthew 5:13-16; 1 Timothy 4:12
  - In word. Matthew 12:34-35; Ephesians 4:29
  - Manner of life. Philippians 1:27
  - In love. John 13:34-35
  - In faith. James 2:18
  - In purity. cf. Revelation 1:5