"At All Times"

II Corinthians 9:6-8

Introduction

- The phrase, "at all times," occurs 14 times in the ESV
  - Both Old and New Testaments
- Let's examine six of those, focusing on their application to us.

"At All Times":

Bless the Lord

- David praised and blessed God
  - Psalms 34:1-3 – "I will bless the Lord at all times"
- Paul shows us that we are to thank (i.e. – bless) God always
  - Ephesians 5:19-21 – "giving thanks always and for everything to God …"
- Are we doing the same?

"At All Times":

Trust in God

- David admonished everyone to trust in God
  - Psalms 62:5-8 – "Trust in him at all times"
  - Psalms 37:1-6 – "Trust in the Lord"
- God is the "Most High" and is deserving of our trust
  - Daniel 4:24-25 – "… the Most High rules the kingdom of men …"
- Are we trusting God "at all times"?
  - Proverbs 3:5-6 – "Trust in the Lord with all your heart"

"At All Times":

Do righteousness

- We are commanded to be righteous people
  - Psalms 106:1-3 – "… observe justice, who do righteousness at all times"
- To "observe justice" is to obey God's words … to keep His commandments
  - Psalms 119:172 – "… all your commandments are right"
- Are you doing righteousness "at all times"?
  - Matthew 5:6 – "thirst for righteousness"
  - I John 3:7 – "Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous"

"At All Times":

Long for God's commandments

- This is more than just a passing observance
  - Psalms 119:17-24 – "My soul is **consumed with longing** for your rules ("commandments" ASV) at all times"
- To long for His commandments is to desire His words
  - Psalms 119:97-104 – "Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day"
  - Job 23:12 – "I have treasured the words of his mouth …"
- Have we developed a longing for His words?
  - I Peter 2:2 – "desire the pure milk of the word" (NKJV)

"At All Times":

Pray

- Commanded many times in the New Testament
  - Ephesians 6:16-18 – "praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication"
- This needs to be an important part of our daily lives
  - I Thessalonians 5:17 – "pray without ceasing"
- As Paul prayed for others, so must we
  - II Thessalonians 1:11-12 – "… we always pray for you"

"At All Times":

Love

- Love was emphasized in the Old Testament
  - Proverbs 17:17 – "A friend loves at all times"
- Love is the central theme of the gospel
  - Matthew 22:36-40 – "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart …"
  - Matthew 5:43-48 – "You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect"
- Love is the mark of a Christian
  - John 13:34-35 – "By this all people will know that you are my disciples"

"At All Times":

Bless the Lord
Trust in God
Do righteousness
Long for God's commandments
Pray
Love

Obeying The Gospel

Hear the Word of God

- Romans 10:14 – "… how are they to hear without someone preaching?"

Believe the Gospel message about Jesus

- John 8:24 – "I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins."

Obeying The Gospel

Repent of your sins

- Luke 13:3 – "… unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

Confess that Jesus is the Son of God

- Matthew 10:32 – "Every one therefore who shall confess me before men, him will I also confess before my Father who is in heaven."

Obeying The Gospel

Be immersed in water

- Mark 16:15-16 – "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved"

Remain faithful

- I Corinthians 15:1-2 – "… hold fast to the word I preached to you – unless you believed in vain"