

# MESSAGE

Occasion : Final wake message / Morning Worship / Memorial Service / Morning Worship / Commitment Sunday  
Date : September 13, 1999 / September 12, 2010 / December 1, 2011 / Sept 7, 2014 / Dec 1, 2019 / Dec 8, 2019 / September 6, 2020

**TITLE : THE WORK OF THE LORD**

Text :

1 Cor 15:58

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Bible Reading :

Rom 12:1-8

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

4 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:

5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

KJV

Eph 4:7-16

7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

9 (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?

10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)

11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.  
KJV

Song/s : Pag-ibig ni Cristo / Blessed Assurance / God Leads Us Along

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## INTRODUCTION

From this verse, we draw a message that can only be distinctly Baptist. Tatay was always known for his favorite subject Baptist Distinctives, and this very pulpit will stand to that position.

The Work of the Lord is the reason why we are gathered here today. It is for the work of the Lord that Tatay gave his life to. It is to the work of the Lord that us his children have been brought up to. If a life is to be Christ's, it has to be for the work of the Lord. If a Christian would be dead, he would be dead to himself and to this world but alive for Christ. And if he would be for Christ, he would be for the work of God.

“Therefore” the Apostle says...This is the practical conclusion of all the he said in the preceding verses. Practical in the sense that all true doctrines lead to practice. “Therefore” because death is not your end, because you are to live body and soul in a future state...therefore...the steadfastness, the being unmoveable...

The work of the Lord. The universe is His handiwork. All His creation proclaims his glory. All its movements are His operation. But the “work” referred to here is not the work of creation, per se. It is the work that leads souls to Christ in salvation as a result of the what Christ had done on Calvary's cross. It is the work that leads them to being identified with Christ's death, burial and resurrection through baptism. It is the work that binds them as one body in Christ. It is the work that is described to be that which Christ has given his life for (Acts 20:28b, “...the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.” It is the work that carries the one mandate he gave, “

Matt 28:19-20

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 always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

### **It is the work of building...a work of building-up.**

We have building, even a beautiful building in Tatalon. But that building in Tatalon, however we love that edifice, we long to be in it, we gave sacrificially and labored sacrificially to build it, **it is not more important than the work of building-up the body of believers.**

Jude 20-21

20 But ye, beloved, **building up yourselves on your most holy faith**, praying in the Holy Ghost,

21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

KJV

Eph 4:12-16

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto **the edifying of itself in love.**

KJV

Eph 4:29

29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but **that which is good to the use of edifying**, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

KJV

1 Thess 5:11-14

11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, **and edify one another**, even as also ye do.

12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;

13 And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

14 Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

KJV

1 Cor 14:26

26 How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. **Let all things be done unto edifying.**

KJV

1 Cor 10:23-24

23 All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: **all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not.**

24 **Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth.**

KJV

1 Cor 14:4-5

4 He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.

5 I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, **that the church may receive edifying.**

KJV

It is to this work that He promised His unceasing presence as He said, "I am with you always even unto the end of the world." It is the work to which he gave apostles and prophets, and pastors and teachers. It is the work that leads to the perfecting of the saints for the work of the ministry, for the edification of the body of Christ. It is the work that glorifies God throughout all ages, world without end.

There is no work that can be greater. There is no institution that can be more valuable. There can be no body so used by Him. There can be no group of people that He could love the more, than people who are in this work. There is no work that can be the subject of His everlasting plan but this work.

John 6:29

29 Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.

It has been suggested that the word "therefore" which introduces the three virtues in our text is "like the nail on which hang three companion photographs." This three-fold cord comes at the end of Paul's "Magna Carta of the Resurrection," illustrating that the highest heavenly hopes that we have, have a most powerful bearing on the everyday work given us to as a church.

Vision enables us to achieve the utmost in our vocation. Paul never divorced position from practice, doctrine from duty, and our life in Christ in the heavenlies from our life and labor on earth for Him.

When Paul used the word "therefore" he implied that because of all he had set forth concerning the fact of the resurrection and the life hereafter, that we should presently live lives worthy of all that awaits us. As we toil on, awaiting our final salvation from this sinful world, we must not grow weak and fainthearted, thinking that our work for God and His cause is wasted - because our "labour is not in vain in the Lord."

#### **A) It is in the work of the Lord where children of God should be.**

The Apostle calls a certain people..."beloved brethren..." These are not brethren by way of nationality. These are not brethren by way of physical relations. These are brethren who have been put together by the precious blood of Christ. People who have been adopted in His family and who became brothers and sisters by faith in Jesus Christ.

Eph 2:8-10

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

KJV

Eph 2:10

10 For we are God's [own] handiwork (His workmanship), recreated in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those good works which God predestined (planned beforehand) for us [taking paths which He prepared ahead of time], that we should walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live].

AMP

- 1) **God's design for His children is for them not only to belong to Him by faith but belong to His body and be united. We have been made a people of God, peculiar and zealous of good works.**

1 Cor 12:18

18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.

Titus 2:13-14

13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

KJV

- 2) **It is in our being brethren that we are known to be His.**

John 8:31

31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

KJV

John 15:8

8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

KJV

John 13:35

35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

KJV

## **B) It is in the work of the Lord where we should be steadfast**

Steadfast - 1476 hedraios (hed-rah'-yos); from a derivative of hezomai (to sit); sedentary, i.e. (by implication) immovable: KJV-- settled, steadfast.

1 a : firmly fixed in place : immovable b : not subject to change <the steadfast doctrine of original sin –Ellen Glasgow>

2 : firm in belief, determination, or adherence : loyal <her followers have remained steadfast >

Synonymous to the word Faithful.

Steady and fastened. Steadily faithful. **Firmly fixed in your own convictions.**

Eph 4:12

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

KJV

Although Paul had his visions and revelations, he was no more visionary. Here, as he speaks about the glorious hope that awaits us, he never meant such a blessed future to foster a dreamy sentimental joy, but to be translated into a strong working force.

The word “stedfast” which occurs 20 times in the Bible, is represented by several Hebrew and Greek words. Here, it is presented to mean “a seat,” and denotes one who is seated or settled, and speaks metaphorically of moral and spiritual fixity or stability. Some scholars even think that the word stedfast can be used in a military sense as indicating a “solid front,” meaning, having no gap in the ranks when marching to battle. Paul commends the Colosians for their stedfastness in Christ

It isn't simply awareness, or knowledge or enlightenment that we are settled. It is because God had convicted us and because we have been we become settled.

Heb 6:19

19 Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;  
KJV

Col 1:23

23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

Col 2:5

5 For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the stedfastness of your faith in Christ.  
(KJV)

- **God is the perfection of stability**

Dan 6:26

26 I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.  
(KJV)

James 1:17

17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.  
(KJV)

Mal 3:6

6 For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.  
(KJV)

Ps 93:1-2

1 The LORD reigneth, he is clothed with majesty; the LORD is clothed with strength, wherewith he hath girded himself: the world also is stablished, that it cannot be moved.  
2 Thy throne is established of old: thou art from everlasting.  
(KJV)

- **Jesus manifested this divine quality**

Luke 9:51

51 And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem,  
(KJV)

Isa 50:5-9

5 The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back.

6 I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting.

7 For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed.

8 He is near that justifieth me; who will contend with me? let us stand together: who is mine adversary? let him come near to me.

9 Behold, the Lord GOD will help me; who is he that shall condemn me? lo, they all shall wax old as a garment; the moth shall eat them up.

(KJV)

- **The Word of God is steadfast**

Heb 2:2

2 For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward;

(KJV)

Ps 96:10

10 Say among the heathen that the LORD reigneth: the world also shall be established that it shall not be moved: he shall judge the people righteously.

(KJV)

- **The disciples were steadfast**

Acts 2:42

42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

(KJV)

Acts 7:55

55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,

(KJV)

Phil 3:13-14

13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

(KJV)

- **We are exhorted further to be steadfast**

Heb 3:14

14 For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end;  
(KJV)

1 Pet 5:8-9

8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

9 Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

(KJV)

### C) It is in the work of the Lord where we should be unmovable

Unmoveable - 277 ametakinetos (am-et-ak-in'-ay-tos); from 1 (as a negative particle) and a derivative of 3334; immovable: KJV-- unmovable.

**Cannot be moved or changed in position, state, condition, posture, location, residence. Carrying on one's life, activities in specific environment and remaining unmoved by circumstances or people.**

Marcus Aurelius is credited with having said, "Stand firm like a rock against which the waves batter, yet it stands unmoved, till they fall to rest at last."



The way Paul uses the term "unmoveable" in our text indicate an establishment in the faith as related to assault from temptation or persecution. There is only one other place in the Scripture where the word is used...

Acts 27:41

41 And falling into a place where two seas met, they ran the ship aground; and the forepart stuck fast, and remained unmoveable, but the hinder part was broken with the violence of the waves.

(KJV)

Eph 4:13-14

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

KJV

- **Be not moved away but continue in faith, grounded and settled**

Col 1:23

23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

KJV

- **Be not moved by bonds and afflictions**

Acts 20:22-24

22 And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there:

23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me.

24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

KJV

- **Be not moved as Paul was not moved...**

2 Cor 4:1

4 Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; KJV

2 Cor 4:8-9

8 We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

9 Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;

KJV

2 Cor 6:4-10

4 But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses,

5 In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings;

6 By pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned,

7 By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,  
8 By honour and dishonour, by evil report and good report: as deceivers, and yet true;  
9 As unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed;  
10 As sorrowful, yet alway rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.  
KJV

2 Cor 4:16-18

16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.  
17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;  
18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.  
KJV

2 Cor 11:24-29

24 Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one.  
25 Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;  
26 In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;  
27 In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.  
28 Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.  
29 Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not?  
KJV

**Such position was like Paul's firm witness for the truth. Like the psalmist...**

Ps 119:31

31 I have stuck unto thy testimonies: O LORD, put me not to shame.  
(KJV)

**Some are unmoveable in the wrong sense!**

Ps 10:4-6

4 The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.  
5 His ways are always grievous; thy judgments are far above out of his sight: as for all his enemies, he puffeth at them.  
6 He hath said in his heart, I shall not be moved: for I shall never be in adversity.  
(KJV)

Eph 6:13

13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.  
(KJV)

Ps 121:2-3

2 My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.

3 He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.

(KJV)

Eph 4:14

14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

- 1) Tatay was not moved by influence of men
- 2) Tatay was not moved by afflictions of men
- 3) Tatay was not moved by doctrines of men
- 4) Tatay was not moved by deceipt by men

As nothing can separate us from God's love, nothing ought to move us from His work.

2 Cor 4:1

4 Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not;

KJV

2 Cor 4:8-10

8 We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

9 Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;

10 Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

2 Cor 4:17-18

17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

2 Cor 6:4-10

4 But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses,

5 In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings;

6 By pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned,

7 By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

8 By honour and dishonour, by evil report and good report: as deceivers, and yet true;

9 As unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed;

10 As sorrowful, yet alway rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

2 Tim 4:16-17

16 At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge.

17 Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

2 Tim 1:12-14

12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

13 Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

14 That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us.

KJV

**This quality is drawn from God Himself Who changes not. He is immutable.**

Rom 8:35-39

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

KJV

Heb 13:8

8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

KJV

James 1:17

17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

KJV

#### **D) It is in the work of the Lord where we should always be abounding**

Abounding - 4052 perisseuo (per-is-syoo'-o); from 4053; to superabound (in quantity or quality), be in excess, be superfluous; also (transitively) to cause to superabound or excel: KJV-- (make, more) abound, (have, have more) abundance (be more) abundant, be the better, enough and to spare, exceed, excel, increase, be left, redound, remain (over and above).

Our work must not be by fits and starts; our consecration must be life-consecration. Always on the same side; always serving the same Master.

We should be abounding in all areas as regards the work of God. Abounding in love, in faith, in utterance...

The word here "means to overflow," "to exceed a fixed number or measure;" is used of a flower going from bud to full bloom.

When we are enriched, we abound.

## 1) Where we should always be abounding in the love of Christ

Eph 4:15-16

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

KJV

Phil 4:12

12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

KJV

2 Cor 5:14

14 For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:

KJV

Phil 1:9

9 And this I pray, that your **love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;**

KJV

1 Thess 3:12

12 And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you:

KJV

2 Thess 1:3

3 We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth;

KJV

Matt 24:12

12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

KJV

## 2) Where we should always be abounding in hope

Rom 15:13

13 Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may **abound in hope**, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

KJV

Rom 5:2-5

2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

3 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;  
4 And patience, experience; and experience, hope:  
5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.  
KJV

Heb 6:11-12

11 And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:  
12 That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.  
KJV

Heb 6:18-19

18 That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:  
19 Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;  
KJV

Rom 12:12

12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;  
KJV

2 Thess 2:16-17

16 Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace,  
17 Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work.  
KJV

Titus 2:13-15

13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;  
14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.  
15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.  
KJV

James 5:7-8

7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.  
8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.  
KJV

### **3) Where we should always be abounding in faith**

Where we walk in faith; which faith pleases Him.

1 Thess 4:1

4 Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to **walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.**

KJV

1 Thess 2:12-13

12 That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.

13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

KJV

1 John 3:22

22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

KJV

Rom 8:8

8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

KJV

Heb 11:6

6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

KJV

Heb 13:16

16 But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

KJV

#### 4) Where we should always be abounding in thanksgiving

Col 2:7

7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, **abounding therein with thanksgiving.**

KJV

Eph 5:20

20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

KJV

Col 1:12-14

12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

KJV

Col 3:17

17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

KJV

1 Thess 5:18

18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

KJV

#### 5) Where we should always be abounding in virtues.

They are the faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, compassion (brotherly kindness) and charity (love) which make us fruitful.

Phil 4:17

17 Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.

KJV

2 Peter 1:5-8

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and **abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful** in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

KJV

#### 6) Where we should always be abounding in every good work

2 Cor 9:8

8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, **may abound to every good work:**

(KJV)

2 Cor 8:7

7 Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.

(KJV)

These are the works according to gifts.

- 1) Faith
- 2) Utterance
- 3) Knowledge
- 4) All diligence
- 5) Love for the work
- 6) Grace of giving

#### 7) Where we should always be abounding with blessings

Prov 28:20

**20 A faithful man shall abound with blessings:** but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.

KJV

2 Cor 8:7

7 Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.

1 Cor 1:5

5 That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge;

KJV

2 Cor 9:8

8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:

KJV

2 Peter 1:3-8

**3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:**

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

**8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

KJV

## E) It is in the work of the Lord where our labor is never in vain

### 1) It is a great confidence that we have ...”we know...”

In knowledge is confidence. In truth is rest.

### 2) It is a worthy endeavour...”is not in vain...”

There are two kinds of vain labour. First, that which aims at a worthless end such that even if it succeeds, it is useless. Second, that which is directed to a good end, but can never realize it simply because it is too indeterminate and feeble. But here is a work that must succeed. Every true thought, every earnest prayer, every godly deed, everything carry themselves success. Inasmuch therefore as you cannot fail in this work, labour.

### 3) It is an objective labour...”in the Lord...”

Because it is “In the Lord” it is brings glory to God. It is approved by God. No other work on earth exists that has God has its object by the work of the Lord. The New Testament Baptist Church.

Eph 3:21

21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Matt 25:21

21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

Gal 6:9

9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Phil 2:30

30 Because for the work of Christ he was nigh unto death, not regarding his life, to supply your lack of service toward me.

Titus 2:14

14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Heb 13:21

21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.