

Eternal Rewards

4-23-17

1 Corinthians 15:58 (ESV)

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be **steadfast**, **immovable**, always **abounding** in the work of the Lord, **knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.**

1 Corinthians 15 is presenting Christ and the resurrection, which guarantees our own eternal life, and resurrection. The “**Therefore**” introduces how this fact should impact each believer. We will go and be with the Lord and our works will follow us. **Therefore, we should “be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.”**

- **Steadfast** – solid view – settled, morally fixed (Satan, hath God said.)
- **Immovable** – will not waiver – firm, when people move away from the truth, we are not moved.
- **Abounding** in the work of the Lord – not holding back – abundantly give our self to the work.
- **Knowing** that in the Lord our work is not in vain – fully convinced that our labor (work unto weariness) is worth the effort and lasts for eternity.

Our labor for the Lord is not in vain and lasts for eternity. Therefore we should “abound in the work of the Lord”?

This means “all our service to the Lord” counts for eternity; sharing about Jesus, giving to the church, serving in the church as children’s SS, greeting visitors, preparing coffee, or being a small group leaders, etc.

We need Eternal vision. One issue with children is that they cannot see beyond the present. **We as adults are guilty of the same thing.** God is telling us to set our hearts on eternity. *God is not saying, “Do not enjoy the things of the world,”* but **HE saying, “Put things in perspective.”** With things in perspective, we make good decisions, we endure difficulties, we labor for the Lord, and **we receive a harvest that lasts for eternity.**

Galatians 6:9 (ESV)

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for **in due season** we will reap, **IF WE DO NOT GIVE UP.**

There is a return for what we put in! God wants us to be encouraged by this. See God, serve HIM, give to HIS kingdom, and don’t give up! God is interested in what we do and will reward us.

1 Corinthians 3:8 (ESV)

He who plants and he who waters are one, and **each will receive his wages according to his labor.**

God wants us to know that we will receive eternal rewards for our participation and support of any work and ministry to the Lord.

When we assist other ministers and ministries of Christ, we receive the same eternal rewards as those ministers and ministries that we assist.

Matthew 10:41 (ESV)

The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will **receive a prophet's reward**, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will **receive a righteous person's reward**.

You support a prophet. Then you will receive a prophet's reward. You support a missionary. Then you receive a missionaries' reward. You support a pastor. You receive a pastor's reward.

Great verse hidden away 3John verse 8:

3 John 8 (ESV)

Therefore we ought to support people like these, **that we may be fellow workers** for the truth.

By our support we become fellow workers with those other ministers and ministries, and thus receive similar rewards. Our input into God's kingdom has eternal impact.

One day we will give an accounting before Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:10 (ESV)

For **we must all appear** before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may **receive what is due** for **what he has done in the body**, whether good or evil.

We are saved, our sins forgiven, and have a home in heaven, **but on the Day of Christ we will see how much of our earthly work lasts for eternity.**

1 Corinthians 3:13 (ESV)

Each one's work will become manifest, for **the Day** will disclose it, because it will be **revealed by fire**, and **the fire will test what sort of work each one has done.**

Our work for the Lord receives a reward!

1 Corinthians 3:14 (ESV)

If the work that anyone has built on the foundation (of Christ) survives, **he will receive a reward.**

We have a home in heaven by trusting Jesus, but we will receive eternal rewards only for the work we have done for Jesus.

1 Corinthians 3:15 (ESV)

If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though **he himself will be saved**, but only as through fire.

First Importance, trust Jesus ALONE and receive eternal life as a FREE GIFT apart from any works!

2Cor.5:21 (NASB)

He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Prophetic Team

Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future.