Christ Apostolic Miracle Ministry Sunday School

Week 51: December 22nd, 2024

Topic: Your labor is not in vain – Part 4

Bible Reading: Hebrews 6:9-10

Christians must be wise and obedient

The Christendom should be vigilant and wise; because God alone has the authority to reward them for their efforts. Many Christians who started on the right footing are influenced by worldliness. The urge to behave like the unbelievers is so intense among the Believers, and it is rampant among the Churches throughout the world. The Beloved who started their new life spiritually with the Holy Spirit, must not strive to reach perfection through the flesh. Nowadays, many Christians are so irrational by thinking that they can reach spiritual maturity that will not make their labor to be in vain through human efforts. Numerous Believers are stupid and foolish by thinking that they can complete what the Spirit of God started in their lives.

Inasmuch as you cannot do it alone, why not rely on the Holy Spirit, and allow God to complete what He started in your life, so that your labor will not be in vain? Are you among the senseless Christians who think they can finish by their power what God began in their lives? Do you think something that begins spiritually can be completed by reverting to outward observances? Are you among those who think that mixing tradition with their mode of worship will make them stronger Christians? Something you are not smart or strong enough to begin, how do you suppose you could perfect it?

Believers need to realize that they cannot attain their goal by flesh, or be rewarded for their efforts without obedience. Therefore, those who have false confidence in themselves must humble themselves, and rely on God. Christians must not allow the affliction, oppression, and persecution they passed through because of their faith to be in vain by trusting in their efforts or power, instead of God; according to the Bible passages which says, "Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh? Have you suffered so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain?" <u>Galatians 3:3-4.</u>

Do you suffer and experience so much for nothing? Have you gone through all the challenges for nothing? Have you experienced mistreatment for nothing? Have you suffered so many things in vain? Do you think your painful encounters mean nothing at all? If not, continue to worship God in truth and spirit; so that

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your labor will not be in vain.

The labor of the faithful is not in vain

The labor of the faithful is not in vain; instead, they will be rewarded in this world and the world to come. Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior mentioned this by saying, "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work." **Revelation 22:12.**

Never say "I wasted my time": People should stop saying that they purify your hearts and wash your hands in innocence for nothing. Do not say 'I keep my heart pure for no good reason.' The Believers must stop complaining to God by saying, 'what good did it do to me to keep my thoughts pure and refuse to do wrong? This statement 'I have received no reward for keeping my life pure, and washing my hands of any blame' must not come out of any obedient person's mouth.

Even if you are discontent with your condition, you must never utter these words 'I have been wasting my time walking blamelessly before God,' according to the scripture which says, "Surely I have cleansed my heart in vain, and washed my hands in innocence." **Psalm 73:13.** Hence, you must not say that you keep your heart pure for nothing, or keep yourself innocent for no reason; because your labor will not be in vain. Therefore, this comment 'Why take the trouble to be pure?' must be forbidden in your speeches.

You have not labored in vain: Working for God is the best thing that can happen to anyone, and whenever you are not working for the Lord; you are indirectly working for Satan. Therefore, do not be discouraged, or pronounce contrary words against yourself; because God will access your efforts, and reward you according to your labor.

Many people in the world are saying that they wearied themselves in vain, and they have used up their strength for nothing; these people need to realize that the Lord will grant them justice, because their reward is with God. Those who are saying they are completely worn out, and their time has been wasted; should be aware that they did it for God who will reward them.

It must be noted that it is not hopeless for anyone to work hard in an acceptable way, and it is not in vain; because God will defend the cause of that person, and reward the person for what he/she has done. Whenever you are working in a manner that pleases God, do not think you accomplish nothing; because your

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labor is not in vain. As it is written, "Then I said, 'I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and in vain; Yet surely my just reward is with the Lord, and my work with my God." **Isaiah 49:4.**

Even if your work seems useless, as long as it is performed in accordance with the statutes of the Lord; you will be rewarded by God. The Christians who are saying that they have nothing to show for a life of hard work must realize that they are laying their treasures in heaven, and their labor is not in vain.

The Lord has promised that your labor will not be in vain, and your work will not be wasted, if you are obedient. Your toil will not be without success, and you will be successful in every good work you do. You will be among the blessed of the Lord, and all the blessings pronounced in the following passages will be your portion, "No more shall an infant from there live but a few days, nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days; For the child shall die one hundred years old, but the sinner being one hundred years old shall be accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them; They shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; They shall not plant and another eat; For as the days of a tree, so shall be the days of My people, and My elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labor in vain, nor bring forth children for trouble; For they shall be the descendants of the blessed of the Lord, and their offspring with them." Isaiah 65:20-23.