

Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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Well-Doing

(Jerry Fite)

Paul writes, “*and let us not be weary in well-doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not*” (*Galatians 6:9*). Not many have died the moment they were raised up from the waters of baptism. Most of us arise to live the life of the Christian. We are honored to live for Christ for years. But time can be a difficult component for us. It is one thing to do what is right for an hour, but to continue in well-doing year after year is a challenge. Paul exhorts Christians to continue in well-doing and not grow weary. The spiritual harvest of eternal life awaits those who consistently day after day engage themselves in well-doing. What does well-doing involve?

Since Paul relates such activity to reaping, we examine the immediate context regarding sowing to see one aspect of well-doing. Sowing to the spirit, as we are led by the Holy Spirit, thus producing the fruit of the Spirit is well-doing (*Galatians 6:8, 5:16, 22-23*). Over time, we might become lax in studying and applying the Spirit revealed Word. We might tire from always having to

manifest love, joy, peace and meekness. We might grow weary in continual kindness, goodness, faithfulness and self-control. During our time on earth we must continue to make sure these spiritual qualities flourish as our spirit sows in the Spirit’s field.

Serving others is well-doing. Paul exhorts the Christian to use the freedom enjoyed in Christ to not selfishly serve the flesh, but “*one another*” (*Galatians 5:13*). He encourages the Christian to manifest the Spirit’s fruit of “*gentleness*” in “*restoring*” those who are suddenly overtaken in sin (*Galatians 6:1-4*). Those who teach us the word are not to be overlooked either. We should share our physical means or “*communicate*” with those who share with us the spiritual truths of God’s word (*Galatians 6:6*). As we have opportunity, we are to “*do good*” or meet the current need of all men, but especially those who are faithful Christians (*Galatians 6:10*). Over time we might become weary in always being aware of the needs of others, and grow tired in expending our energy and physical

blessings to help others. But this is the life of the servant. Grow not weary in such well-doing.

Not compromising with error is well-doing. Paul led by example and did not give in to false teaching, “*no not for an hour*” (*Galatians 2:5*). He withstood his fellow apostle face to face pointing out Peter’s hypocrisy in “*not walking according to the truth of the Gospel*” (*Galatians 2:14*). He did this not to promote himself, but to make sure “*the truth of the Gospel might remain*” before all (*Galatians 2:5*).

You may be courageous and take a stand for revealed truth momentarily. You may have many follow your example and stand with you for truth. But you may be tempted to grow weary when few stand to preserve truth. You may even want to give up, especially when those who compromise hurl disparaging remarks against you. Standing for truth is sowing to the Spirit. We must not become weary in such well-doing. Reaping eternal life is at stake! Are you continuing in well-doing?