

Messenger of Truth

"Holding forth the Word of Life" (Phil. 2:16)

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Work

"I like work: it fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours." – Jerome K. Jerome, *Three Men in a Boat*, Chapt. 15

"Do thine own task, and be therewith content." – Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

"We work to become, not to acquire." – Elbert Hubbard

"To be successful, the first thing to do is fall in love with your work." – Mary Lauretta

"To the worker, God Himself lends aid." – Euripides, *Hippolytus*

In the church we often sing, "To the work, to the work, we are servants of God; let us follow the path that our Master has trod; with the balm of His counsel our strength to renew, let us do with our might what our hands find to do." The chorus says, "Toiling on, toiling on...Let us hope and trust, let us watch and pray, and labor till the Master comes."

What is sad is that far too many believe that the work of the church is attending the worship services. Now as far as seeking and saving the lost, that is supposed to be the preacher's job.

Jesus said, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!" (John 4:34-35). The Lord did not have worship in mind, but the evangelizing of souls.

Physical work is important and is not to be taken lightly. It is needful and the Bible says that those who won't shouldn't be fed because of their laziness (2 Thess. 3:10). But work in a spiritual context is so much greater and more important.

Again our Lord said, "I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work" (John 9:4).

Rest comes when this life is over. In Hebrews 4, numerous times the writer uses the term rest. And in John's crowning work of Revelation, he writes, "Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, 'Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' "Yes," says the Spirit, 'that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them'" (Rev. 14:13).

The time to share the Gospel of Christ is now. We need to actively seek to share that message as long as we live upon this earth. To the work!