

LET US NOT BE WEARY

Sunday Morning: December 14, 2004

Text: Galatians 6:8-9 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit **reap (work) life everlasting** [agelasting]. 9. And **let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.**

We're continuing our studies in the book of Galatians. And this passage that we've been looking at for the last Sunday or two is very significant. I'm going to read Galatians 6:8-9. The reason why this is significant is this; many people do not understand what *everlasting life* really is. They think *everlasting life* is the common salvation that one receives when he born from above. And if you believe that, then you believe that you can lose your salvation when you grow weary and quit sowing and reaping.

REAPING AGELASTING LIFE

Galatians 6:10c-9 . . .**reap (work) life everlasting** [agelasting]. 9. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season **we shall reap, if we faint not.**

And another thing too if you believe everlasting life is salvation it means that you can work for it. Because I have never seen a field reap without laborers working it. And you work to get this blessing of life for the coming age. So eternal life is not, or life everlasting is not salvation but it has to do with life in the coming age.

The word *everlasting* should be translated *age*. And what the translators have done is they have interpreted word *age* to be *everlasting* or *eternal*. They did not translate it. In fact what they did is they went to the Latin vulgate that translated the word *age* as *aeternus* from which we get the English word *eternal*. The Latin Vulgate interpreted word *age* as, *aeternus* which is *eternity* in Latin then the translators of the King James used the Latin word to translated the Greek word for *age* which is not translation but interpretation. What they did is sad. But it's part of the veil which is over the mysteries of the Kingdom of God. God is still veiling that mystery. Because when you come into the knowledge of the truth of that mystery, then you come into greater responsibility, accountability and greater penalty at judgment. But let me tell you, you respond to that truth and we can take courage that 'eye hath not seen nor ear heard neither has entered into your heart of man' what is in store for you if you will not faint. And you that will continue to work the harvest will in the age to come reap agelasting life.

REGARD AGELASTING LIFE

1 John 5:13 These things have I written unto you that **believe** [present active] on the **name** (the Word of God) of the Son of God; that **ye may know** that ye **have** [regard, esteem] **eternal** [agelasting] **life**, and that ye may **believe** [present active] on the **name** of the Son of God.

This is by way of a bit of review. This verse is dealing with whether or not we 'regard' or 'esteeming' the harvest. If you have a little regard for agelasting life, then you are not going to work diligently the field, you are not going to have a regard for the crop. You're going to let the reaping of the crop go. And when you think about this harvest as the common salvation, then you will reason that this agelasting life is something you already have. In other words if your harvest is already in the barns, then you're sure not going to be worried about growing weary in well doing. I have got my salvation now. I am in the family now and there is nothing more for me, but God has offered us more if we will not grow weary in well doing and that is a life of honor and glory in the coming kingdom age. So we need to esteem that, we need to highly value that. Because if we don't highly value that then we will not be faithful to the Lord.

So 1 John 5: 13 says, 'These things have I written unto you that believe. This is in the present tense. These are the faithful ones. And they're believing on the name of the Son of God. And I personally believe that 'believing on the name of the Son of God ' is believing the word of God which is the mysteries of the Kingdom of the Heavens, which we will prove in just the next verse. Not only did he write this unto them, to the ones believing, present tense, 'but that ye might know that you *regard* age lasting life.' In other words, I want you to know that you are regarding that knowledge or that blessing. 'And that ye may believe, present active, in the name of the Son of God. And he says I want those of you that are believing in the word of God, I want you to be assured that believing the Word of God, you are valuing life for the age.

Now, how do I associate the Word of God with the Son of God and His name?

HIS NAME

Rev 19:13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and **his name** is called **The Word of God.**

That's His name. That's the Lord Jesus Christ.

THE WORD OF GOD

Luke 8:10-11 And he said, Unto you it (the seed) is given to know **the mysteries of the kingdom of God**: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand.¹¹ Now the parable is this: The **seed is the word of God.**

So Jesus is talking to His disciples and He said, 'Unto you the seed is given and the seed is the mysteries of the Kingdom of God.' And so therefore the Word of God is the mysteries of the Kingdom of God. The equal things equal to each other are related to each other. So I just wanted to emphasize the fact that we need to 'regard' life for the age and regarding the life for the age, we're talking about the mysteries of the Kingdom of God and that's what we need to be hearing and responding to or valuing.

Now, when it comes to life for the age, we have to continue in well doing together.

CONTINUE IN WELL DOING

Romans 2:6-7 Who will **render** (reward, wages) to every man **according** to his **deeds** [works]:
7. To them who by patient continuance in well doing (work) **seek** for **glory** and **honour!** and **immortality** [incorruption], **eternal life**:

They are the ones who are going to have life for the age. In other words, He's going to reward, He's going to give wages to every man according to his work. If you sow sparingly, what are your rewards going to be? What kind of profit are you going to get? It's going to be very little! If you sow a lot, you're going to get a lot. And so therefore He's going to reward us according to our labors. If we're lazy, we're saying there's a lion in the street, I got to stay in the house, you're going to have poverty. Your poverty's going to, you know creep up on you and you're going to be hungry! But we need to know that it's through the faithful and good work we are seeking for honor and glory and incorruption and we'll have life for the age.

In 1 Timothy chapter 6, another verse in scripture that shows that you work for age lasting life.

RICH IN GOOD WORKS

1 Timothy 6:17-19 Charge **them that are rich** in this world, that they be not high minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;
18. That they do good, that they be **rich in good works**, ready to **distribute**, willing to **communicate**;
19. Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against **the time!** to come [present active], **that they may lay hold on eternal** [agelasting] **life.**

In other words, you got plenty of money, don't trust it! Don't rely upon it. You need to trust God who is certain. Your riches are uncertain.

So he continues, 'That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.'

In other words, how does a person who has plenty of this world's goods provide for himself life for the age? By being generous with what? Giving, giving. Communicating, that is not talking, that is ministry to them. It could mean talking, but visitation, providing for their financial needs if they need them or if they need a ride or whatever. So we are to be encouraged to lay up in store for ourselves a good foundation against the time to come.

The word 'time' is implied. It should be in italics but it's not because the word 'time' is not in that verse neither is the word 'age.' It's not in the 'age' to come, but it's implied in the age to come.

Now one of the things we're encouraged to do, and we talked about this already, is to consider Christ. Consider the Lord Jesus Christ and what He did.

CONSIDER CHRIST

Hebrews 12:3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be **wearied** and **faint** in your **minds** [souls].

We, in the daily grind of life, that presses against us to live an evil life or to satisfy the sins of the flesh that buffet us; Jesus Christ lived in a time when people were constantly badgering Him. And Satan didn't just tempt Him once, he tempted Him more than one time to worship him. And so we're to consider the Lord Jesus Christ. He didn't quit! He didn't grow weary! And so therefore we should not grow weary. We should not grow weary and faint in our minds. We're encouraged in Luke 18:1 to pray always.

PRAY ALWAYS

Luke 18:1 And he spake a parable unto them *to this end*, that men ought **always** to **pray**, and **not to faint**;

I brought out last Sunday it's important for us to pray. Because one thing, if we continue to prayer we can be assured that we will not faint or less tendency to faint and Jesus Christ gave us an example of that.

JESUS PRAYED

Matthew 14:23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart **to pray**: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

Jesus Christ was a man of prayer. And oftentimes when I think about things like this, him being part of the Godhead, was He talking to Himself? Not really! He was praying to His heavenly Father and we need to do the same thing. Jesus wasn't talking to Himself and we shouldn't be talking to ourselves either! We shouldn't be pumping ourselves up, we should be relying upon our heavenly Father. So He prayed. I think prayer has to do with renewing the inner man.

RENEW THE INNER MAN

2 Corinthians 4:16 For which cause we **faint not**; but though our **outward man perish**, yet the **inward man** is **renewed day** by **day**.

I think that we need a daily renewal or we will become weary. And I think that the only way we can renew our spirit, renew ourselves in the Lord, is through prayer and the Word. The reading of the Word of God. If you're not reading the Bible everyday, you're going to become weary! You're not going to be encouraged that our God is great. I have really enjoyed reading in the

Old Testament. That's really where you find out what God's really like. That He is powerful and He can change things and He can rebuke you in a way.. I've been reading about Ai and Achan. And what happened to Israel because of a guy who was a little greedy and a sneak and it hurt everybody. But anyway, the Lord exposed him and yet the Lord delivered that land t the nation of Israel.

Now, how is our spirit renewed day by day? Well I think it's found in Acts20:32.

WORD OF HIS GRACE

Acts 20:32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to **the word of his grace**, which is able to **build you up** (strengthen, empower), and to give you an **inheritance** (agelasting life) among all them which are sanctified.

It's the Word of His grace! It's the truth concerning His grace that we need to build ourselves up. To build ourselves up is to be strengthened, to be empowered. It's the grace of God that is the power of Christ. And we need to be in the Word of His grace to be encouraged to continue in His grace.

In Hebrews 13:9 we are told that we need to establish our hearts with the grace of God.

HEART ESTABLISHED WITH GRACE

Hebrews 13:9 Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For *it is* a good thing that the **heart be established with grace**; not with meats, . . .

The grace of God establishes us! What does it mean, 'establishes?' It makes us stable, not tossed around. Stability! We need stability in our lives. A farmer needs stability in his life. He knows that there's the crop out there in the field. And He knows he needs to take care of that crop. And He needs to do it at least once a month, right? No! He needs to do it everyday! And he is allowed one day, you know he usually takes Sunday off. But anyway, his dependability and we need to stability and our hearts are established by grace. You know it's the grace of God gives us peace and if we don't have peace we're not going to be stable. We're going to be wringing our hands and thinking about other things. And not finding the strength that we need in the Lord Jesus Christ.

We need to appreciate the fact that grace is needed for acceptable service.

GRACE FOR ACCEPTABLE WORK

Hebrews 12:28 Wherefore we receiving a **kingdom** which **cannot** be **moved**, let us **have** [present active subjunctive, may we have] **grace**, whereby we may **serve** God **acceptably** with reverence and godly fear:

We are serving, we are working that we might have life for the gage and that's the Kingdom that's referred to in this verse. And it says, 'let us have grace', it's better , '*may* we have grace continually'. This verb is in the present tense. It is subjunctive, meaning we may not have grace. But we are to have grace continually! Why? Because we're serving the Lord. And do we want to serve the Lord in our own strength or in His strength or power? Well, if we serve the Lord in our own strength , we're going to produce wood, hay and stubble. It's the grace of God worked by grace that honors him because He is the One who provides the strength and the power.

In fact Paul told Timothy

STRONG IN GRACE

2 Timothy 2:1 Thou therefore, my son, **be strong in the grace** that is in Christ Jesus.

GROW IN GRACE

2 Peter 3:18 But **grow in grace**, and *in* the **knowledge** of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. . .

Grace is a growing process. We hear sometimes 'irresistible grace', if it was grace, you can't help it, God's going to put it on you. Well, let me tell you, it's a growing process and it's not something God slaps on you. And it comes through knowledge

THROUGH EXACT KNOWLEDGE

2 Peter 1:2 **Grace** and peace be **multiplied** unto you **through** the knowledge [ἐπιγνωσις, knowledge upon knowledge] of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

And this word, 'knowledge' is not just simply knowing, it's deeper knowledge. Knowledge upon knowledge. It's exact knowledge, if you want to put it that way. And it's the exact knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. So we are to have grace for acceptable purpose. We need to be strong in that grace, we need to grow in that grace and we need to know that it comes thorough Bible study and it's really the study of the Word of God which pertains to the mysteries of the Kingdom of the Heavens.

Now the central part of this message is Romans 5:21. I didn't know whether to put it at the beginning of the message or where to put it but let me tell you this is a very important verse of scripture. I look this verse every morning when I'm praying.

LET GRACE REIGN

Romans 5:21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might **grace reign** through (obedience leading to Rom 6:16) **righteousness** unto [εἰς, leading to] **eternal** [agelasting] life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

That as sin hath reigned unto death, now I don't dwell on that. Hopefully I'm past lawlessness. I do fear the Lord, I do want to be just. But I know that if I am lawless and it's reigning. Lawlessness reign in my life . I'm going to perish! Guaranteed! No life for the age. In the family? Yes. Saved? Yes. But no life of honor and glory in His coming Kingdom. If you are doing that which is right in your own eyes, You know what you are? You are lawless. And the children of Israel were guilty of that. But we need to be doing that which is right in the eyes of God. So let's go on with this verse.

Now I put some thoughts in here, some extra words in here. It says that grace might reign through obedience, leading to righteousness. If you're disobedient, you're lawless. If you're obedient, you're going to have the righteousness of the just, okay? And you find that in Romans 6:16.

OBEDIENCE

Romans 6:16 Know ye not, that to whom ye **yield** yourselves **servants** to **obey**, his servants ye are to whom ye **obey**; whether of sin unto death, or of **obedience unto** [εἰς, leading to] **righteousness**?

And I've taken this word, 'obedience', I mean this word 'unto' and translated it 'leading' to righteousness. So I want grace to reign in my life. I want grace to be in charge. And because if grace is in charge, I know that I'll have life for the coming age. I'll be ruling and reigning. Why? Well, I'll be serving God in an acceptable manner. If grace is in charge in my life, I'm going to have the grace that I need to serve Him with, 'acceptably with reverence and godly fear', in Hebrews 12:28. And God's not going to give you grace if You're disobedient. If you're disobedient, you're not serving the Lord, you're a servant of somebody else. And why is God

going to give You power to serve His enemy? Just like, if you've got employees, and your employee is working for the competition, and he comes around for his pay, what are you going to say? Sorry! You know, you were working against t me not with me and he's not going to produce you with grace.

Now what should, how can grace be, have authority in our lives? Well, it's constantly going to the throne of grace.

AUTHORITY OF GRACE

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the **throne of grace**, that we may obtain mercy, and find **grace** to help in time of need.

You know, I think this verse is significant in this regard; the word, 'throne'. How would you behave yourself around the throne of England, the King? Well, you would know that that was something special, wouldn't you? When you go to England and you want to see the Queen and her throne or any Kingdom and you are observing that special place you take note of it. You notice it, you know that it's important and you know that there is power there. There's authority there. And you're not flippant around it. You have respect to it. And if you're coming to the throne of grace, you're not going to treat that throne lightly. It's going to be of value. It's going to have authority, at least you need to appreciate the fact that the throne of grace has authority. Where? In my life! I want to honor that and it's there that I obtain mercy. Usually when the King sits upon the throne, like David or Solomon, what do they do? They issued judgments. They condemned men to die. I know that David not knowing that Nathan was talking about him, he condemned himself to death because of what he did with Bathsheba. Because he was a king and he was on the throne. And you know what? It's at the throne of grace that we need to obtain mercy. We know that we deserve death but it's at the throne of grace that we obtain mercy, forgiveness, deliverance. I think that that's where the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ comes in. Without the shedding of blood there is no deliverance. So when we come to the throne of grace, we need to recognize it's authority and what it means. And then we will find grace to help in time of need. And so the authority of grace!

Now Paul reflects upon the grace of God in his life. And I want to read a little bit about that so that we can also reflect on that

ABUNDANT LABOR

1 Corinthians 15:10 But by the **grace** of God I am what I am: and his **grace** which was *bestowed* upon me was not in vain; but I **labored more abundantly** than they all: yet **not I, but the grace** of God which was with me.

'But by the grace of God I am what I am'. A lot of people end right there. You know by the grace of God there goes me. By the grace of God I am what I am. Well what is he talking about here? 'And His grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain.' Why? Because Paul says I labored more abundantly. If we have grace, what will we be doing? Laboring, working. 'Than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.' In other words it was the grace of God that gave Paul the power to serve and to labor. And so therefore we should not let the grace of God come upon us in vain.

WORKERS NEED GRACE

2 Corinthians 6:1 We then, as **workers** together *with him*, beseech *you* also that ye **receive** not the **grace** of God in vain.

So when you get grace at the throne of grace, don't waste it! Use that power to be a blessing to others and to honor and glorify the Lord. Now, again I remind us of the verse we've been talking

about already in comments.

GRACE, THE POWER OF CHRIST

2 Corinthians 12:9 And he said unto me, My **grace** is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

What is the grace of God? I believe it is the power of Christ. This defines it. And we can't talk about our weaknesses because when we do and that's an excuse, we are falling from grace basically speaking because it's the grace of God that allows us to serve when we are weak. Because it's His power. I'm reminded of Hebrews 12 about falling from grace.

FALLING FROM GRACE

Hebrews 12:15-16 Looking diligently lest any man **fail** [fall short] **of the grace** of God; lest any root of **bitterness** springing up **trouble** *you*, and thereby many be defiled; **16.** Lest there *be* any fornicator, or profane person, as **Esau**, who for **one! morsel of meat sold his birthright.**

If grace isn't working you can become bitter. If grace is working you won't be bitter or you won't be in trouble or you won't be troubled. And not only that when grace isn't working, what happens? Others were defiled.

When we lose the value of our birthright or lose the value of life for the age, we are going to forfeit that blessing for just a bowl of chilly. That's all it was, a mess of pottage. In fact it just says a bowl of red. To me that's chilly, isn't it? Chilly looks red but anyway, Esau sold it for a bowl of pottage.

ESAU WAS FAINT

Genesis 25:29-30, 34 And Jacob *sod* pottage: and Esau came from the field, and he *was faint*: **30.** And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red *pottage*; for I *am faint*: therefore was his name called Edom. **34.** Then Jacob gave Esau **bread** and **pottage** of lentiles; and he did **eat** and drink, and rose up, and went his **way** (no change): thus **Esau despised his birthright.**

"Therefore was his name called 'red'" You didn't know Esau was all red! All Esau means is red.

What is the field? I look at the field as the world. Esau was a man of the world. He was enjoying the pleasures of sin for a season, a long one. And you know what when you are out in the world you're going to be missing prophet's food. because that's what 'pottage' is. Jacob was a shepherd and he spent time in studying the scriptures. He *sod* pottage. It takes a while to do that. And here's a man who hadn't time for that. If you don't have time for the Word of God, you're going to grow faint. And you may sell your birthright. You may sell the blessing of ruling and reigning with Christ for nothing! Esau did. And so what should we be doing?

WAITING ON THE LORD

Isaiah 40:29-31 He giveth **power** (grace) **to the faint**; and to *them that have* no might he **increaseth strength**. **30.** Even the **youths** shall **faint** and **be weary**, and the young men shall utterly fall: **31.** But **they that wait** upon the LORD shall **renew their strength**; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall **run**, and **not be weary**; *and* they shall **walk**, and **not faint**.

Waiting upon the Lord at the throne of grace you're going to find what you need. There are going to be people, the youth, they think they can make it on their own. And they're going to faint. And the young men likewise, they're going to fall. But they that know that they need the

Lord and His grace are going to be waiting upon Him to what? To get the strength, to get the grace needed. And so therefore I encourage all of us to take the counsel that Paul gave Timothy.

LAY HOLD ON AGELASTING LIFE

1 Timothy 6:11-12 But thou, **O man of God**, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. **12.** Fight the good fight of faith, **lay hold on eternal [agelasting] life**, . . .

Grab hold of that valuable crop and don't faint! Don't become weary and it takes the grace of God to do that. May the Lord help us to have grace that we faint not in a very evil day.

Father, I just pray that You'd bless the message to each of us. How important is Your grace is beyond our imagination, our comprehension. We thank You Lord, that Your grace is sufficient for us and You're the God of all grace and You're able to make all grace abound unto us if we will just make ourselves available to get it. Give us boldness to pray, to be before the throne of grace, to obtain mercy and to find grace to help us in seasons of need. Thank you again for the proof that we find in Your Word that encourages us to do the right thing so that one day we might hear, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant and enter into the joy of the Lord;' that is life for the age. For it is in Jesus Christ's name that we pray, Amen