

Workers Together With God

Intro: For our study today, let us notice what the Spirit said through Paul to the Corinthians and to us in 2 Cor. 6:1 “*We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.*” Let us notice three things about this verse.

I. WE ARE WORKERS.

A. We are workers.

1. Jam. 2:14-26 “*14 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, 16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? 17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. 18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works. 19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. 20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? 22 Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? 23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. 24 Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. 25 Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent *them* out another way? 26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.*”
2. Phi. 2:12 “*12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.*”
3. Notice four things about work.

B. We are to have a mind to work.

1. Neh. 4:6 “*6 So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.*”
2. God created us to work.
 - a. Gen. 2:15 “*15 And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.*”
 - b. Gen. 3:19 “*19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou *art*, and unto dust shalt thou return.*”
3. 1 The. 4:11 “*11 And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;*”

C. We are to work now.

1. John 9:4 “*4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.*”
2. If we fail to do the work at the present opportunities that are here will pass.

D. We are to work with all our abilities.

1. Mat. 25:14-30 “*14 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. 15 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey. 16 Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made *them* other five talents. 17 And likewise he that *had received* two, he also gained other two. 18 But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money. 19 After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them. 20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five*

talents more. ²¹ His lord said unto him, Well done, *thou* good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. ²² He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them. ²³ His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. ²⁴ Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: ²⁵ And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, *there* thou hast *that* is thine. ²⁶ His lord answered and said unto him, *Thou* wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: ²⁷ Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and *then* at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. ²⁸ Take therefore the talent from him, and give *it* unto him which hath ten talents. ²⁹ For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. ³⁰ And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

2. Rom. 12:6-8 “⁶ Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, *let us prophesy* according to the proportion of faith; ⁷ Or ministry, *let us wait on our ministering*; or he that teacheth, on teaching; ⁸ Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, *let him do it* with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.” The ASV has: “⁶ And having gifts differing according to the grace that was given to us, whether prophecy, *let us prophesy* according to the proportion of our faith; ⁷ or ministry, *let us give ourselves* to our ministry; or he that teacheth, to his teaching; ⁸ or he that exhorteth, to his exhorting: he that giveth, *let him do it* with liberality; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that showeth mercy, with cheerfulness.”

E. We are to work hard.

1. Ecc. 9:10 “¹⁰ Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do *it* with thy might; for *there is* no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.”
2. Rom. 12:11 “¹¹ Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;”
3. Col. 3:23 “²³ And whatsoever ye do, do *it* heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;”

II. SHOULD WORK WITH GOD NOT AGAINST HIM.

A. There is no neutrality.

1. Mat. 6:24 “²⁴ No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.”
2. Mat. 12:30 “³⁰ He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.”

B. Teaching man’s doctrines are vain.

1. Mat. 15:9 “⁹ But in vain they do worship me, teaching *for* doctrines the commandments of men.”
2. All human plants will be rooted up and destroyed.
 - a. Mat. 15:13-14 “¹³ But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up. ¹⁴ Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.”
 - b. Mat. 13:39-42 “³⁹ The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. ⁴⁰ As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. ⁴¹ The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; ⁴² And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”

C. Some believe they are workers with God but in reality they are not.

1. Mat. 7:21-23 “²¹ Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. ²² Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy

name done many wonderful works? ²³ And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”

2. 2 Cor. 11:13-15 ¹³ For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. ¹⁴ And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. ¹⁵ Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.”

D. Only God’s teachings will last.

1. Mat. 24:35 ³⁵ Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”
2. 1 Pet. 1:23, 25 ²³ Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. ²⁴ For all flesh *is* as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: ²⁵ But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.”

E. Paul was once a worker against God.

1. Acts 26:9 ⁹ I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.”
2. 1 Tim. 1:13 ¹³ Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did *it* ignorantly in unbelief.”
3. He changed his life to become a worker with God.
 - a. Gal. 1:23 ²³ But they had heard only, That he which persecuted us in times past now preacheth the faith which once he destroyed.”
 - b. 1 Cor. 3:6 ⁶ I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.”
 - c. 2 Tim. 4:7-8 ⁷ I have fought a good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith: ⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.”

III. SHOULD WORK TOGETHER.

A. 1 Cor. 3:6 ⁶ I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.”

B. We must have the same mind to work together.

1. 1 Cor. 1:10 ¹⁰ Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you; but *that* ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.”
2. Phi. 2:2 ² Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.”
3. Speaking the same thing; 1 Pet. 4:11 ¹¹ If any man speak, *let him speak* as the oracles of God; if any man minister, *let him do it* as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”

C. Division will destroy us.

1. Mat. 12:25 ²⁵ And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand.”
2. Gal. 5:15 ¹⁵ But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.”

Conclusion: Let us determine to work together with God.