**[B] ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN THE WORK OF THE LORD**

**1 Corinthians 15:57, 58**

**INTRODUCTI0N:**

1. The Christian LIFE is a filled with work for the Master (1 Cor 3:9).

2. All of [us] sing of work, **BUT** few are actually “…Abounding In The Work Of The Lord”.

 A. [We] sing, “I Want To Be A Worker For The Lord”, **BUT** do [we] *really* mean it?

 1. It is one thing to say something and another to fulfill what [we] have said.

3. The Apostle Paul gives thanks to God who gave victory through His Dear Son (1 Cor 15:57).

 A. At the resurrection, the victory will be complete.

 B. Christ gave MAN the victory over the law, for [it] was nailed to His Cross (Col 2:14).

  C. Victory over sin was given through His Death on the cross (1 Cor 15:3; Heb 7:27).

 1. If Christians are to have [this] victory, one must be FAITHFUL (Rev 2:10).

4. The resurrection proves their labor will be rewarded, if one is steadfast (1 Cor 15:58).

 A. Meaning one must stand firm in their conviction and remain FAITFUL in Christ.

   B. “Unmovable” says one must ***NOT*** let anyone move them from what God’s Word says.

4. The LORD’S work involves the greatest privileges, responsibilities and rewards of any area of

 work known to MAN.

**BODY:**

**1. BASIC REQUIREMENT FOR THE WORK**

 A. Conviction, involving steadfastness and immovability, is necessary for The LORD’S Work.

 1. The Corinthians were hindered in their work by doubts and opinions.

 A. The problem of eating meat offered to idols (1 Cor 8 – 10).

 B. The questions of the veil and LORD’S Supper (1 Cor 11).

 C. The importance and use of Spiritual gifts (1 Cor 12 – 14).

 2. Philippians warned to be steadfast/united striving in faith of the gospel (Php 1:27).

 B. The proper zeal for the LORD is impossible without strong faith and conviction (Jas 2:18).

 1. [Our] work is in proportion to [our] faith, conviction and hope.

**2. THE FERVOR [INTENSITY] OF THE WORK**

 A. The Greek word translated “abounding” is an interesting study.

 1. It is “perisseuo” meaning “to be over and above; excel”.

 2. It is used of excelling others (Mt 5:20).

 3. It is used of exceeding the minimum (Lk 15:17).

 4. It is used of exceeding what was done in the past (Mk 15:14).

 B. Christian service must be abounding service.

 1. [We] are ***NOT*** to grow weary/discouraged in one’s obedience to God (Gal 6:9).

 A. Abounding service is willing service.

 1. The **11th** hour men illustrate this point (Mt 20:1 – 16).

 2. Abounding service is fervent service (Rom 12:11).

 A. The idea of being heated to a boil.

 3. Abounding service is from the heart (Eph 6:6).

 4. Abounding service is **1st** place service (Mt 6:33).

**CONCLUSION:**

1. “Abounding in the work of the Lord” means happiness [here] and heaven [hereafter].

 A. [We] need to examine [our] Christian service and ask ourselves individually,

 “Am I abounding in the Lord’s work”?

1. Remember, the question is ***NOT***, “Am I *occasionally* doing the Lord's work;” **BUT**,

more precisely, “Am I ABOUNDING In The Work Of The LORD”?

2. Let [us] remember, “…the night cometh, when no man can work” (Jn 9:4).