OUR LABORS FOR GOD. ARE OUR TREASURES IN HEAVEN

LET US NEVER FORGET: There is a VAST DIFFERENCE between our **SALVATION** and our **REWARDS**:

SALVATION IS EVERYTHING about **WHAT JESUS DID for US** at the CROSS, while

REWARDS ARE EVERYTHING about **WHAT WE DID for JESUS** here in this LIFE.

So, WE don't WORK TO BE SAVED: WE WORK BECAUSE WE ARE SAVED.

Our LIFE and TIME ON EARTH, is Our TIME for LAYING UP TREASURES IN HEAVEN.

In Our **SALVATION**, there are MANY BENEFITS other than being SAVED from HELL.

WE are given the PRIVILEGE of LAYING UP TREASURES in HEAVEN:

"But LAY UP for YOURSELVES TREASURES in HEAVEN,

where neither MOTH nor RUST doth CORRUPT, and where THIEVES do not BREAK THROUGH nor STEAL."

Matt. 6: 20

EACH DAY WE LIVE, WE'RE making a RECORD that will stand for ETERNITY.

LET US PURPOSE in our HEARTS to **REDEEM the TIME**, and with each NEW DAY,

WATCH for Your GOD GIVEN OPPORTUNITIES to LAY UP TREASURES in HEAVEN.

GOD'S PEOPLE have ETERNAL LIFE, but MANY ARE NOT REAPING the BENEFITS of their ETERNAL LIFE. So in THIS LIFE, WE NEED TO BE CAREFUL as to HOW WE SOW:

"BE NOT DECEIVED; GOD is NOT MOCKED:

for WHATSOEVER a MAN SOWETH, THAT shall HE also REAP."

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 LIFE EVERLASTING."

And LET US NOT BE WEARY in WELL DOING:

for IN DUE SEASON WE shall REAP, IF WE FAINT NOT."

Gal. 6: 7, 8,9

GOD SAVES Our **SOUL** through SALVATION, but

WE must SAVE Our LIFE by Our OBEDIENCE to GOD'S WORD and Our WALK of FAITH. Indeed, WE will REAP WHAT WE SOW in this LIFE, as well as in ETERNITY.

GOD gave US our LIFE here, so that WE might be about the Father's Business and SPEND IT for His GLORY. EVERY DAY of Our LIVES, WE'RE EXCHANGING IT for SOMETHING in VIEW of ETERNITY.

"For WHOSOEVER will **SAVE** his **LIFE** (Live for Self) shall **LOSE IT** (in Heaven): and WHOSOEVER will LOSE his LIFE (Live for the Lord) for My Sake shall FIND IT (in Heaven). "Matt. 16:25

"ONLY ONE LIFE, 'TWILL SOON BE PAST; ONLY WHAT'S DONE FOR CHRIST WILL LAST."

- Charles T. Studd

For a BELIEVER to SAVE his LIFE, HE must have WORKS that HONOR and GLORIFY GOD.

While the CHRISTIAN's **SOUL** is **SAVED**, yet HIS **LIFE** can be **LOST**

unless HE BUILDS PROPERLY upon CHRIST the great FOUNDATION.

Certainly, Our **SALVATION** is the **GIFT** of **GOD**, but WE must **EARN** Our **REWARD**.

The DESIRE in the HEART of EVERY CHRISTIAN should be

TO WORK for the GLORY of GOD, because of the LOVE WE HAVE in our HEARTS for the LORD.

IN HEAVEN, BEFORE THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST, ALL BELIEVERS MUST APPEAR:

"For WE MUST ALL APPEAR before the JUDGMENT SEAT of CHRIST;

that EVERY ONE may RECEIVE the THINGS DONE in HIS BODY,

according to that **HE HATH DONE**, whether it be **GOOD** or **BAD**."

II Cor. 5:10

WE BUILD WITH: GOLD, SILVER, & PRECIOUS STONES, or WOOD, HAY, & STUBBLE:

"For OTHER FOUNDATION can NO MAN LAY than that is LAID, which is JESUS CHRIST.

Now if ANY MAN BUILD upon this FOUNDATION

GOLD, SILVER, PRECIOUS STONES, WOOD, HAY, and STUBBLE;

EVERY MAN's WORK shall be made MANIFEST:

for the DAY shall DECLARE IT, because IT SHALL BE REVEALED by FIRE;

and the FIRE shall TRY EVERY MAN's WORK of WHAT SORT IT IS.

If ANY MAN'S WORK ABIDE which HE hath BUILT THEREUPON, HE shall RECEIVE a REWARD.

If ANY MAN's WORK shall be BURNED, HE shall SUFFER LOSS:

but HE HIMSELF shall be **SAVED**; YET SO AS BY FIRE."

I Cor. 3: 11-15

"And EVERY MAN shall RECEIVE HIS OWN REWARD according to HIS OWN LABOUR."

I Cor 3: 8 b

When a BELIEVER YIELDS HIS LIFE to GOD, and WALKS after the SPIRIT,

HE BUILDS with GOLD, SILVER, and PRECIOUS STONES, but

When a BELIEVER DOES NOT YIELD HIS LIFE to GOD, and WALKS after the FLESH,

HE BUILDS with WOOD, HAY, and STUBBLE.

(I Cor. 3: 11-15)

At the JUDGMENT SEAT of CHRIST, the BELIEVER's LIFE'S WORKS will be TRIED BY FIRE.

WORKS symbolized by WOOD, HAY, and STUBBLE will be CONSUMED by the FIRE,

WORKS symbolized by GOLD, SILVER, and PRECIOUS STONES will REMAIN a HEAVENLY REWARD.

"The FIRE shall TRY EVERY MAN'S WORK of WHAT SORT IT IS."

I Cor. 3: 13 b

AT THE **JUDGMENT SEAT of CHRIST**, GOD will JUDGE our **LIFE's WORKS** according to:

The LIGHT of GOD's WORD that has been SHED UPON Our PATHWAY, and

The **DEGREE of that LIGHT** that WE WALKED IN.

LET US SO YIELD our LIVES to GOD, that WHEN WE COME BEFORE the JUDGMENT SEAT of CHRIST,

WE will have a **FULL REWARD**.

MANY of GOD's PEOPLE will NOT HAVE a FULL REWARD, and

SOME will have **NO REWARD** at all.

LET US **SO LIVE** that WE will NOT COME BEFORE the LORD **EMPTY HANDED**.

MANY of GOD's dear PEOPLE will get inside the PEARLY GATES by the "SKIN of their TEETH,"

with NO REWARD awaiting them—because of a WASTED LIFE.

These are THOSE who were at one time BORN AGAIN, but did not

STAY under the SOUND of the GOSPEL and GROW UP in the LORD.

THOSE who LABOR because THEY ARE CHRISTIANS, and DO IT AS UNTO the LORD, will be REWARDED.

IN HEAVEN, AT THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST:

THERE WILL BE A GREAT REWARD RECEIVED BY THE CHRISTIAN FOR:

BEING OBEDIENT TO GOD'S WORD (or WALKING in the LIGHT of GOD's WORD)

GLORIFYING GOD in our BODIES and in our SPIRITS

(Living Your LIFE in a manner which brings GLORY to GOD)

HONORING GOD IN OUR "PLANS AND PURPOSES"

(Putting GOD FIRST in your LIFE, or **SEEKING FIRST the KINGDOM of GOD**)

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF OUR "GOD-GIVEN OPPORTUNITIES" (To SHARE JESUS WITH OTHERS)

GIVING GOD ALL THE PRAISE AND GLORY FOR OUR "ACCOMPLISHMENTS"

For being REVILED, PERSECUTED, and FALSELY ACCUSED:

"BLESSED are YE, when MEN shall REVILE YOU, and PERSECUTE YOU,

and shall SAY ALL MANNER of EVIL AGAINST YOU FALSELY, for My SAKE.

REJOICE, and be exceeding **GLAD**: for **GREAT** is your **REWARD** in **HEAVEN**:

for so PERSECUTED THEY the PROPHETS which were before YOU. "Matt. 5: 11, 12

THERE WILL BE CROWNS FOR THE CHRISTIAN TO WIN:

| AN INCORRUPTIBLE CROWN | For BEING TEMPERATE | (I Cor. 9: 25) |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| | (Keeping our BODILY APPETITES under | er |
| | Subjection to the SPIRIT of GOD). | |
| A CROWN of LIFE | For OVERCOMING TEMPTATION (Ja | ames 1: 12, Rev. 2:10) |
| A CROWN of GLORY | For DEING AN EVANDI E to the DEI II | EVED (I Dot 5, 2.4) |
| A CROWN OF GLORY | For BEING AN EXAMPLE to the BELIE | EVER (I Pet. 5: 3,4) |
| A CROWN of REJOICING | For WINNING SOULS to the LORD | (I Thess. 2: 19,20) |
| | | |
| A CROWN of RIGHTEOUSNESS | For KEEPING the FAITH | (II Tim. 4: 6,7,8) |
| | (Being faithful in our Christian Life and Service) | |

When Our BODIES are laid down in DEATH, all our EARTHLY POSSESSIONS will be LEFT BEHIND. Only the TREASURES that WE'VE LAID UP in HEAVEN will ENDURE throughout ETERNITY.

"For WE BROUGHT NOTHING into this WORLD, and it is certain WE can CARRY NOTHING OUT." I Tim. 6:7

So LET US LABOR FAITHFULLY for the LORD,

so that WHEN WE STAND before CHRIST, WE may HEAR our LORD SAY:

"WELL DONE, thou GOOD and FAITHFUL SERVANT ENTER THOU INTO the JOY of THY LORD."

Matt. 25:21

"For so AN ENTRANCE shall be MINISTERED UNTO YOU ABUNDANTLY

into the EVERLASTING KINGDOM of our LORD and SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST." II Pet. 1: 11

For ALL that HONORS GOD and brings PRAISE and GLORY to the NAME of CHRIST, will bring a **GREAT RECOMPENSE** of **HEAVENLY REWARD**.

There is a very truthful Old Song that says it perfectly:

"IT PAYS TO SERVE JESUS, IT PAYS EVERYDAY, IT PAYS EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!"

- Malinda A. Martin