

*The
Passion
And The
Promise*

Psalm 126:5-6

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5 They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

Introduction

A. Farming is hard work

B. More workers are needed for the harvest

John 4:35

Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.

C. Workers need to have passion

I. There Is A Purpose To Acknowledge

A. A personal purpose

1. God is concerned

Ezekiel 22:30

And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.

2. God is considering

Isaiah 6:8

Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

I. There Is A Purpose To Acknowledge

A. A personal purpose

3. Christ is commanding

John 20:21

Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.

I. There Is A Purpose To Acknowledge

B. A present purpose

1. The urgency of the effort

Ephesians 5:16-17

16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

17 Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.

I. There Is A Purpose To Acknowledge

B. A present purpose - continued

2. The unconditional nature of the effort

Matthew 8:19-22

19 And a certain scribe came, and said unto him, Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest.

20 And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.

21 And another of his disciples said unto him, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.

22 But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead.

I. There Is A Purpose To Acknowledge

C. A precious purpose

1. The Gospel

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

I. There Is A Purpose To Acknowledge

C. A precious purpose - continued

2. The Word of God

Romans 10:17

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Psalm 19:7

The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

I. There Is A Purpose To Acknowledge

C. A precious purpose - continued

3. The Holy Spirit

John 16:13

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

Mark 13:11

But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost.

I. There Is A Purpose To Acknowledge

C. A precious purpose - continued

4. Your own testimony

1 Peter 2:12

Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

Titus 3:8

This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.

II. A Passion To Adopt

A. Three reasons we need A passion for souls

1. Our examples

a. Jesus had a burden

Luke 19:41

And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it,

b. Jeremiah had a burden

Jeremiah 9:1

Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!

II. A Passion To Adopt

A. Three reasons we need A passion for souls

1. Our examples - continued

c. Paul had a burden

Romans 9:3

**For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ
for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:**

II. A Passion To Adopt

A. Three reasons we need a passion for souls - continued

2. Our experiences

Isaiah 51:1

Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the LORD: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged.

II. A Passion To Adopt

A. Three reasons we need a passion for souls - continued

3. The end of man

Matthew 7:14

Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Matthew 22:14

For many are called, but few are chosen.

II. A Passion To Adopt

B. The results of our having a passion for souls

1. Concern

Romans 10:1

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.

2. Compassion

Acts 20:31

Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

II. A Passion To Adopt

B. The results of our having a passion for souls – cont'd

3. Commitment

1 Corinthians 9:16

For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!

III. A Promise To Anticipate

A. The promise of success – "doubtless."

1. There is a harvest

Matthew 9:38

Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

III. A Promise To Anticipate

A. The promise of success - continued

2. There is always progress

1 Corinthians 3:6-9

6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.

7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

9 For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

III. A Promise To Anticipate

B. The promise of satisfaction - “rejoicing“

**1. A look back - For accomplishing the Lord’s work
Ecclesiastes 9:7**

**Go thy way, eat thy bread with joy, and drink thy wine
with a merry heart; for God now accepteth thy works.**

**2. A look ahead – The opportunity to spend eternity
together**

Daniel 12:3

**And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the
firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as
the stars for ever and ever.**

Are You Sowing The Seed?