

Do not waste the gifts of God.

### **Hebrews 10:31 – 39**

As Believers in Jesus Christ, we are without question blessed. However, as children of God our blessings continue all the days of our life, God never stops giving to us. God said in, **1 John 3:22** *“And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.”* This blessing is not what we want or desire but whatever God has chosen for us to have. However, the gifts of God keep going, we are blessed with have the Holy Spirit indwelling us. **John 14:16 - 17** *“And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.”* He has come into you to live in you, by first quickening your dead spirit, **Ephesians 2:1** *“And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;”* This quickening would be like Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead, we were so dead we were stinking. Look at **Romans 8:9** *“But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.”* Once the Spirit of Christ which is the Spirit of God dwells in us **1 Corinthians 3:16** *“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”* We were gifted from God the gift of sonship, the gift of being a soldier of God on this earth, not to please ourselves but to please our Father, to fulfill His blessed will. **2 Timothy 2:4** *“No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.”* The word “warreth” means to serve – we were not blessed with salvation, life, grace, mercy, tools of God, abilities to serve God, to engage ourselves with the affairs of this life, but to serve God as a soldier in truth, so much truth that we become the pillar and ground of Truth.

Christians are blessed with a new nature, a nature to serve God in Spirit and in Truth, if we fail to do so we are wasting God’s gift. **2 Corinthians 5:17** *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”* Christians are made new, they become a creature acceptable to God thru Jesus Christ. The blessings of God never stop, we should never waste these blessings.

One Day God will judge us all, we must all please Him as we stand before our Lord and Saviour and hear how we treated God’s blessings. As Christians we are to bring glory to the name of God

thru the name of Jesus Christ. As churches we are to do as commanded and carry the gospel to the world and to make learned disciples of those saved. Doing the best that God allows us to do, this will be our accountability to Him. **Matthew 25:21-23** “*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. 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. 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.*”

As Christians and churches we must never “waste the gifts of God.” We must take these gifts and use them as far as we can and accomplish as much as God will allow is, all to honor our Father and His Son Jesus the Head of all churches.

A. How do we serve and please God?

1. We need to understand that God does not need us. **Luke 17:10** “*So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.*”
  - a. Our service to God adds nor subtracts from God, **Job 22:2-3** “*Can a man be profitable unto God, as he that is wise may be profitable unto himself? Is it any pleasure to the Almighty, that thou art righteous? or is it gain to him, that thou makest thy ways perfect?*”
  - b. “All that we do is what is our “duty;” we cannot lay claim to having rendered any service that will “bind” him to show us favor.” – Albert Barnes **Romans 3:23-24** “*For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:*” – Our best services are mingled with imperfections because even though we are complete in Christ, we are still redeemed sinners at best.
  - c. But all that we do, we do from our Christians heart to please God and to bring glory to our Saviour. **Ephesians 6:6-8** “*Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men: Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free.*”

2. We must remember that we need God, He in no way needs us. He is our blessing.
  - a. We must have God, we must depend on God, our blessing in life is to please Him. **John 15:5** *“I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.”*
  - b. Reality is us as Christians can in Christ serve God in righteousness. We can accomplish glory to God thru Christ because we are branches of the True Vine. **Philippians 4:13** *“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.”*
  - c. On the flip side, severed from Christ we can do nothing. *“...for without me ye can do nothing.”* – without Christ we have no independent fruitfulness or stability.
  - d. No glory is ours, none.
  - e. We are in great need of His presence, His workings, and His power. **1 Corinthians 3:9** *“For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.”* Not that God needs us, but we are blessed to work with God for his glory. – “ye are God's husbandry” means we are God’s tillage, cultivation – we are God’s ground workers as churches. God can till His own ground, but choses to use us as a blessing to us.
  - f. **Hebrews 6:7** *“For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them **by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God:**”* – Isn’t it wonderful to be used of God? **1 Corinthians 3:4-8** *“For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal? Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.”* – **Carnel or flesh? Yes indeed we are, even powerless, but also a church that God uses for His own glory by His own power. What a blessing.**
3. We must believe and trust God in our Faith. This is of great importance.
  - a. That belief and trust must be in faith, real faith and not wavering. **Hebrews 11:5-6** *“By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony,*

*that he pleased God. But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."*

- b. If we do not, it is not of God. **Galatians 5:5 - 8** *"For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. (6) For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love. (7) Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth? (8) This persuasion cometh not of him that calleth you."*
- B. Without faith, without salvation there is no pleasing God.
1. **Romans 8:7-8** *"Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. **So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.**"*
  2. Because they are lost and at enmity against God. The word "enmity" hate so they hate God.
    - a. They hate God's Sovereignty, they hate His power over us, Him controlling us.
    - b. They hate that we do not work out our own salvation. They hate that salvation is by faith in Jesus Christ and not earned by themselves.
    - c. They hate that God does not fit their image of Him.
    - d. They hate that God hates the world they have built. **James 4:4** *"Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."*
    - e. **1 John 2:15-16** *"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."*
    - f. The world's love is to make the world what each group want's it to be. This is why there are wars in the world, in the countries, in the states, in the cities.
    - g. Even the "Christian Religionist" that is the "Counterfeit Christians" hate the True God. They are no different than the Jews, Muslims, Buddhism, or any other religion that hates God for His Sovereignty, Jesus for His salvation, and the Holy Spirit for His power over us.

3. This is why the Holy Spirit must deliver us to salvation, we cannot accomplish it on our own. He must teach us because we cannot learn on our own. He must keep us because we cannot keep ourselves. He must remain in us because without Him inside of us we will fail. **Ephesians 3:14-21** *“For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.”*

C. A True believer is God’s child and led by the Holy Spirit.

1. In salvation: **Ephesians 2:8-9** *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”*
  - a. In works: **Ephesians 2:10** *“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”*
  - b. **Ephesians 4:24-25** *“And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.”*
2. Our Text says, **Hebrews 10:35** *“Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.”*
  - a. This word “confidence” means – boldness – our confidence or our boldness in is in the Sovereign work of God, in the saving ability of Jesus Christ, in the power within us by the Holy Spirit.
  - b. The power of God in His promise never to leave nor forsake us, and neither should we leave nor forsake God.
  - c. Our confidence or boldness strengthens our faith in God, in His Sovereign powers in us. It allows us as Christians to walk boldly in a world that hates God.

- d. The world may look at us as ignorant and unlearned people. **Acts 4:13** “*Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.*”
  - e. We ought to pray for great boldness. **Acts 4:28-31** “*For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done. And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus. And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.*”
3. It all takes “Great Faith” is the workings and power of God.
- a. Our great faith is a gift from God, and we do not need to waste God’s gift of faith.
  - b. **Hebrews 11:6** “*But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*”
  - c. Great Faith is overcoming our fear of the world and Satan. **1 John 4:4-6** “*Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them. We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.*”

#### D. Conclusion

1. The battle on earth is not ours, it is God against Satan. We know that God will have victory just as Jesus had victory at Calvary.
2. When we are weakened it is because we are not properly using the gifts of God. God said. **Hebrews 11:6** “*But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, **and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.***” Our great example was Enoch, Hebrews 11:5 “*By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had*

*translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.”*  
Enoch did not waste God’s Gifts.

3. **Isaiah 2:2 - 3** “*And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.*” The church was started in Jerusalem, the boldness in God’s gifts were at Jerusalem, as a church of Jesus Christ we are given many gifts, and as believers and children of God we are given many gifts, do not waste God’s gifts, as a church and as individual believers.
4. Last, let us look at the Apostle Paul, **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 laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.*” Pray for boldness, pray that God gifts us with the ability to serve Him, then pray that WE DO NOT WASTE THE GIFTS OF GOD BUT THAT “laboured more abundantly than they all” **AMEN!**