

# GLAD TIDINGS

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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## ATTITUDE TOWARDS OUR WORK

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**B**efore a job is accomplished, even before it is attempted, an important ingredient must be considered. That additional component is one's attitude towards the specific job to be done. A proper attitude can turn a difficult job into a manageable one, or an easy task into a burdensome one. Cleaning up a large trashy yard may appear an impossible mission. With an attitude of breaking down the big job into small manageable tasks, inspired by focusing on the goal of a clean and beautiful lot, the job will soon start and the seemingly difficult task will be completed.

Doing God's will is affected by our attitude. God wants us to develop the proper attitude as we approach doing His will in our lives. The God-inspired apostle Paul writes these words of exhortation: *“whatsoever ye do, work heartily, as unto the Lord, and not unto men; knowing that from the Lord, ye shall receive the recompense of the inheritance: ye serve the Lord Christ” (Colossians 3:23-24).*

The work at hand was to be approached “heartily”. The

Greek word translated “heartily” is “psuche”, sometimes translated “soul”. Literally, “from the soul”, encompassing the will and passion of our heart, is how the work is to be approached. Such an attitude is opposite of an unwilling heart that consequently approaches the work lethargically, with little energy to accomplish the task.

A “heartily” attitude is surely seen in Paul's exhortation to the Romans: *“In diligence not slothful; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord” (Romans 12:11).* We are not to approach serving the Lord with a lethargic mindset, but to be “boiling over” or “fervent” in our attitude towards any of the Lord's demands. With this demand of God governing our attitude towards serving the Lord, how can a Christian ever go through a worship service lacking enthusiasm when singing, or fervency in praying, and approach the preaching with a listless and indifferent ear?

The second attitude towards the work stated is to do it as “unto the Lord”, knowing the Lord will reward you. What a difference it makes in the amount of work and the quality of work we

do when we constantly remember we are doing our work for the Lord. Man will benefit from our work, a point that in not to be overlooked, but what a joy this attitude brings to our work, to be working for the Lord. This will guard us from the attitude of “only work when the boss is watching”, for we know that our ultimate boss is the Lord, and He is always watching ( cf. Col. 3:22, Heb. 4:13). He will reward us in Heaven.

When we examine the context of Colossians 3:23, we see the importance of having a proper attitude. The work under consideration was one of a slave. Yes, a slave! Even the most “degrading” circumstance that one could find himself in, being owned by another human being, could be used to glorify the Lord. One's attitude towards his work as a slave was everything: I will do my tasks “heartily” understanding my service is ultimately “unto the Lord”, knowing I will receive my “inheritance” in heaven. With such an attitude, the slave is ready to accomplish any task. What is your attitude towards your work in the Lord?