

Glad Tidings

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

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Give It Your All

(Jerry Fite)

There are many books out on how to live a successful life. But none can surpass the wisdom for living revealed by the Creator of life, our Omniscient God. He inspires the preacher in the Book of Ecclesiastes to write, “*Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom in Sheol, whither thou goest*” (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

This wisdom applies to everything we attempt to do in life: “*Whosoever your hand findeth to do...*”. Whether you are about to clean the house, trim the yard, prepare for a test, or conduct business; an attitude of I am going to give my all and do my best should precede every endeavor. When you employ all your might, and give it your all, you never have to look back at your work regretting deep inside for not working harder. Usually the give-it-your-all attitude going in produces a pleasing result.

God wants us to see that we will not always have the opportunity to do things with our hands. The grave awaits us all

when our earthly activities come to an end. In the grave, we are separated from all work under the sun. The knowledge applied to test preparation, the wisdom employed in making prudent business decisions, the devices used to clean the house and trim the yard are not needed in sheol, or the grave.

Things become precious when they are limited. Time limits our work under the sun. Each precious day should find us employing all the knowledge and wisdom we have to strengthen our might as we give our all to every endeavor in life. To do less, falls short of the wisdom of God.

Giving our all also applies to living the life as a Christian. Paul writes, “*whatsoever ye do, work heartily, as unto the Lord, and not unto men*” (Colossians 3:23). Paul exhorts slaves who are Christians to serve their masters with a heart focused upon serving Christ, their Lord. All that they do as a slave was to be done “*heartily*.” We might say, they were to put their whole “*soul*” into each work. There is

no insignificant work before the Lord. Even the slave was to give his or her all to the work for the fleshly master, because such work was being done “*as unto the Lord*”, their heavenly and eternal master.

Regardless how you look at it, we are to give our all in every endeavor in life. If we look at it from the standpoint of living life under the sun, we must do it with all our might. If we look at it from a Christian’s standpoint, we must put our soul into even the most menial tasks. Wisdom demands we give our all now because we know no physical activity will ever be ours again once we enter the grave. Godliness demands we do all our tasks heartily because our Lord demands such an attitude toward our work in glorifying Him.

Do not let another day or endeavor pass that you give less than your all. You will probably find that you will be more successful in life and pleased in the results from your work. But more importantly, you will be living according to God’s wisdom.