

**"CHRISTIAN SERVICE REMEMBERED AND HONORED"**  
**HEBREWS 6:9-12**

**INTRO:** Many times over the years I have heard people say, "I AM SO DISCOURAGED BECAUSE I NEVER HAVE ANYONE THANK ME FOR WHAT I DO AROUND THE CHURCH AND WHAT IS WORSE, I DO NOT THINK MY MINISTRY IS EFFECTIVE." Have you ever said that? If you have, you are numbered among the MANY WHO HAVE! Please allow me to give some food for thought about that statement:

- 1) Discouragement is a TOOL of Satan.
- 2) Not being thanked DOES NOT indicate not being appreciated.
- 3) Our service SHOULD NOT BE DONE just to get human applause.
- 4) The most effective Christian Service is done BEHIND THE SCENES.
- 5) The effect of your ministry is NOT BEST JUDGED by human evaluation.
- 6) Every element of Christian Ministry that is done to honor God will be HONORED BY GOD.

**CHRISTIAN SERVICE THAT IS CONDUCTED WITH THE RIGHT MOTIVE AND BY THE STRENGTH GOD PROVIDES WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED AND HONORED BY GOD EVEN IF NO ONE EVER EXPRESSES APPRECIATION FOR OUR SERVICE HERE ON EARTH.** Let's note how our text brings this out to us.

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BACKGROUND: The background of this passage is VERY INTERESTING and SO OFTEN DISCUSSED.

- Verses 1-3 of the Chapter speak concerning spiritual growth of believers.
- Verses 4-8 of the Chapter speak of those who have been enlightened by the Holy Spirit about salvation but then OUTRIGHT REJECT CHRIST AND GO INTO ULTIMATE UNBELIEF OR APOSTASY WHICH BRINGS JUDGMENT.
- Verses 9-12 of the Chapter speak to "the beloved" or BORN AGAIN BELIEVERS about their Christian service unto the Lord and other Christians.

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**I. A MINDFUL GOD VS. 10a**

**"GOD IS NOT UNRIGHTEOUS TO FORGET YOUR WORK"**

A. The Motive for God Being Mindful of our Service

1. He is "NOT UNRIGHTEOUS." In this context "UNRIGHTEOUS" means "to compromise what is right."
2. In other words, IT IS RIGHT to remember good work, and thus GOD WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER what we do in Christian service and will honor us for it! GOD'S MOTIVE IS TO ALWAYS DO RIGHT!

B. The Manner of God Being Mindful of our Service

-God will bring to mind all of our service at the **JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST.** 1 Corinthians 3:13-15

ILLUSTRATION:

**II. A MEASURABLE SERVICE - VS. 10b**

**"YOUR WORK OF FAITH AND LABOR OF LOVE"**

A. Your Work of Faith

NOTE: Biblical salvation is NOT obtained or kept by good works BUT good works WILL be the result of our salvation as we allow the Lord to work in our lives.

1. Our Work of Faith Following our Created Purpose - Ephesians 2:10
2. Our Work of Faith Fulfilling our Acts of Service - Titus 3:8
3. Our Work of Faith Formalizing our Salvation - James 2:14-17

B. Your Labor of Love

NOTE: The word "LABOUR" is "KOPOS" in Greek meaning "TOIL RESULTING IN WEARINESS." Thus it speaks of "TIRESOME LABOR FOR THE LORD."

NOTE: The word "LOVE" is "AGAPE" in Greek meaning "SACRIFICIAL GIVING."

1. Genuine Christian Service is Tiresome
  - a. Tiresome Labor for God is not sluggish, slothful or shortcutting.
  - b. Tiresome Labor for God is continual, complete and contemplative.
2. Genuine Christian Service is Sacrificial
  - a. Service as Christ provided for us on the Cross - HIS LIFE!
  - b. Service that is unselfish toward others - OTHERS FIRST!

ILLUSTRATION:

**III. A MINISTRY PERFORMED - VS. 10c**

**"WHICH YE HAVE SHEWED"**

A. Toward His Name

1. All effective ministry is DONE FIRST toward God and for God.  
-Colossians 3:17,23,24
2. All effective ministry is done BY MEANS OF Spiritual Gifts  
-Ephesians 4:11-16

B. Toward The Saints

1. All effective ministry is DONE SECOND to edify believers.

2. All effective ministry CONTINUES to minister.

-1 Corinthians 15:58

ILLUSTRATION:

#### **IV. A MANDATED DETERMINATION - VSS. 11,12**

A. Complete the Work of Faith and Labor of Love - Vs. 11

**"DILIGENCE TO THE FULL ASSURANCE OF HOPE UNTO THE END"**

-Involves being "quick to serve with certain endeavor being assured of a reward at the end of our life when we stand before Christ."

B. Consider the Example of Those who have gone Before - Vs. 12

**"BE NOT SLOTHFUL"**

1. Biblical Characters

2. Personal Acquaintances

ILLUSTRATION:

LESSON AND APPLICATION:

1) All TRUE service done for the Lord will be rewarded by God, AND THAT IS WHAT COUNTS!

2) We must be FOCUSED NOT ON THE REWARD, but rather FULFILLING OUR SERVICE TO HONOR GOD!