

Spiritual Depression: Its Causes and Cure by Dr. Martin Lloyd-Jones
Chapter 14: Weary in Well Doing
Galatians 6:9

Gal 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Lloyd-Jones – (With respect to this lesson) "... the apostle is not concerned about the danger of our going astray through heresy and error, or by taking up some particular cult and believing it to be the true faith... Here, the devil does something much more subtle, in that people just become weary and tired, while still going in the right direction... They are moving in the right direction but the trouble is that they are shuffling along with drooping heads and hands and the whole spectacle and picture they present is the very antithesis of what the Christian is meant to be in this life and world."

Review of last week's lesson on how false teaching can bring depression upon us.

Lloyd-Jones points out that false teachings either add or detract from sound doctrine. We know that in Galatians false teachers sought to add to the body of sound doctrine.

Lloyd-Jones stresses that we need to check (1) to see if the teaching is "Apostolic" or Biblical, (2) consider the implications of the teaching, (3) determine if the teaching either adds to or detracts from Revelation, (4) search the origins of this teaching, (5) examine this teaching to see if it gives too much prominence to certain doctrines, (6) consider whether this teaching adds to the work of Christ as if Christ's work is not sufficient, (7) determine if this teaching states that "faith" is not enough, (8) observe whether this teaching denies authentic Christian experience, (9) find out if this teaching really promotes that we glory only in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Today's Lesson: Weary in Well Doing

Have you grown weary in well doing? Or may we word it like this, have you grown used to the Christian life and find it mundane? Was there a time in your Christian life that was more exciting than it is now? Maybe things have calmed down now and every day seems alike, boring.

Lloyd-Jones describes this group of people who have grown weary in well doing as those who are tired in the work, but not tired of the work.

1. Name those conditions which may lead someone to become weary in well doing.

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

How does this condition apply not only to our spirits, but to our work? our churches? our marriages?

2. What are we to do to overcome such weariness?

In answering this, what are the three negatives that Lloyd-Jones would have us apply when we are faced with such weariness?

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____

How does this third negative to both individuals and churches?

What are we to do on the positive side in overcoming weariness in well doing?

(1) We are to examine ourselves.

In do doing, what may we find as the reasons for this weariness?

- 1> We can be literally working_____.
- 2> We can be doing the work that we do by_____.
- 3> We can be doing what we do for the wrong motives. Name some wrong motives.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

In further self-examination we are then to consider principles in overcoming weariness.

Principle one: Know that there are various phases in life. What are these phases?

- 1>
- 2>
- 3>

Principle two: We must also remind ourselves that this life with Christ is a life of doing what He commands, that it is a life of "well doing." We have the privilege of walking with Him, not just trudging along in a duty. "...realize that you are set in the midst of the most glorious campaign into which a man could ever enter, and that you are on the noblest road that the world has ever known."

Principle three: Go back and put your life in the context of eternity for "in due season we shall reap if we faint not."

Principle four: Consider our Master in how patient He worked and all that He endured. "For the joy that was set before Him He endured the cross, despising the shame..." Ask the Lord to forgive you for being sinfully weary in the work. Go on in the strength of the Lord and in the power of His might.

Note: As of 2/21/09 you may download Phil Newton's messages on Resisting the Reign of Sin from <http://drop.io/FBCCClintonLA>