*Friday, July 26, 2013*

**Works**

John 6:27-29 Labor not for the meat which perishes, but for that meat which endures unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed. 28 Then said they unto him, what shall we do, that we might work the works of God? 29 Jesus answered and said unto them, this is the work of God that ye believe on him whom he hath sent. (KJV)

All this week we have been looking at works and labor, what really works and what will result from that if we let the Lord work on our behalf. The Lord really simplified it down to one work, and that is believing in what the Son has done on our behalf and not what we think we should be doing on His. Sound too simple? Well that is the part that many miss, the simplicity of the gospel. The Lord would like to work on behalf of His people, but will only do so if we let Him.

2 Timothy 1:9-11 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, 10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel: 11 Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. (KJV)

Paul hit the trifecta so to speak being appointed personally by God as a preacher, teacher, and even an apostle. Paul got the memo from above where God said it is no longer based on your works, rather let me show you something that works better which is grace through faith. Have you received this memo for yourself yet, or are you still toiling and trying to work yourself into a place the Lord is not leading? The reason you experienced peace in the beginning of your walk with the Lord is because you were in the place that He purposed for you to be in before the foundation of the world. If you are not experiencing this peace anymore then obviously you have walked away from what He was purposing and back into something that can simply be put in the column of dead works.

Romans 4:2-5 For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. 3 For what says the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. 4 Now to him that works is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. 5 But to him that works not, but believeth on him that justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. (KJV)

Salvation is a free gift because God chose to do the works for us having watched the first Adam fall short. Abraham was considered a great man of faith which he found was not by his works, but by grace. Is grace a big part of your walk?

Galatians 2:16-18 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. 17 But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid.18 For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. (KJV)

I was brought up in a religion that was based on works and I found myself dead in the water, being tossed to and fro like a ship on the Dead Sea. I have seen many ships sink even though they started out so well; but many with good intentions revert back to the works of the law filled with holes in the doctrine and they ended up on the bottom.

God bless dearly loved and believe on Him whom God has sent; have a prosperous day in Christ Jesus our Lord.