

Your Toil Is Not In Vain

➤ = next PowerPoint slide

➤ Intro:

- **SR = 1 Cor. 15:58** toil (work) in the Lord is not in vain – **why? - what's in it for you?**

➤ Your work is not in vain because **God is accomplishing His work through you!**

- **Phil. 2:12-13** God is at work in you, to will and to work for His good pleasure

➤ - **rf - 1 Th. 2:13** as we render obedience to God's word, God works through us, according to the talents and abilities He has blessed us with

➤ - **rf - Rom. 8:28** working all things together for good, to those who love the Lord

- **How important is your work in the Lord?** – more important than being President of the USA, winning the Super Bowl, being the most famous actor or actress or musician, being the richest person in the world

➤ Your work is not in vain because **you personally benefit!**

- **2 Th. 2:16-17** work not in vain – **makes you stronger and more confident in your salvation**

- **rf. Acts 20:35** Jesus, it's more blessed to give than receive – **giver gets more than the receiver**

➤ - **1 Tim. 6:17-19** you are storing up treasure – **toiling for the Lord = storing up treasure in heaven**

- **illus.: work for employer, have 401 K, you put % of salary and employer matches (free \$), storing up treasure on earth - nothing wrong – toil in kingdom, storing up treasure in heaven, more valuable**

- **What's your bank account in heaven have in it?** – analogy, figurative speech

➤ Your work is not in vain because **you are helping our congregation to grow - helping each member!**

- **Eph. 4:12, 16** your “work of service” “causes the growth of the body, building up, in love

- **every person, and every work done in the Lord, necessary for growth of the body in love**

- **each individual part is important, has work to do**

- **everything you do helps every person here** (work in the Lord)

- **illus.: song #620, “Room In The Kingdom” - there is work that we all can do**

- **What would it be like if you weren't here – if no one was here?** - no singing or LS or prayers, no encouragement, no worship

➤ Your work is not in vain because **God will not forget what you've done in His kingdom upon the earth!**

- **Heb. 6:10** **God will not forget** your work upon the earth, and love toward His name (respect for His authority) – **love name - work**

- **shows God's attitude toward the things we do – well pleasing**

- **illus.: God punished the Jews by bringing Babylon upon them, destroying them and taking them into Babylonian captivity, yet 100+ years before bring Babylon upon them He promised to never forget them**

- **Is. 49:15** “Can a woman forget her nursing child And have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, **but I will not forget you.**”

- **God never forgets His people - He'll remember you and what you've done at judgment**

➤ Your work is not in vain because **you'll be glorified when Jesus returns!**

- **Rom. 8:18** future glory is to be revealed in you – **when?** - 1 Jn. 3:1-2

➤ - **1 Jn. 3:1-2** when Jesus appears – **you will be like Jesus when He appears**

➤ - **Phil. 3:21** Jesus will transform you – **spiritual body, eternal life**

➤ - **1 Th. 4:14-17** the coming of Jesus, be with him forever – **transformed**

- **Your work is not in vain because you'll be rewarded at judgment to live in heaven for eternity!**
 - **1 Cor. 2:9** your reward will be grander than you can imagine
 - **Matt. 25:21** hear the Lord say, well done good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your master
 - **1 Cor. 6:2-3** you'll judge the world and the angels, with all the saints — possibly as those who stand in agreement with Christ at judgment
- - **Rev. 21:1-7; 22:1-4** imagine the day you'll be welcomed into heaven, see the Lord and His throne, worship with the angels and all the saints

➤ **Summary / Inv.**

- **Your toil is not in vain:**

- God is accomplishing His work through you!
- You personally benefit! – stronger, more confident in your salvation, storing up treasure in heaven
- You are helping our congregation to grow - helping each member!
- God will not forget what you've done in His kingdom upon the earth!
- You'll be glorified when Christ returns!
- You'll be rewarded at judgment to live in heaven for eternity!

- **Inv.:** if you are not a Christian, why don't you become one, so your toil on earth is not in vain

- **hymn #508 "To The Work"** toiling on, let us hope and trust, let us watch and pray, and labor till the Master comes