

bad things I want to forget, but a poor memory for good things that I want to remember. Memorising Bible verses takes a lot of work. Remembering God's promises takes focused pondering.

- 2) The devil wants us to forget God's promises regarding our resurrection, immortality and our eternal home.
- 3) He wants us to forget God's promises to reward us for our godly living and faithful service. **God promises to reward!**
 - a) (Psalms 19:11) "*Moreover by them [God's words] is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.*"
 - b) (Galatians 6:9) "*And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*"
 - c) (2 Corinthians 5:10) "*For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.*"

b. We must renew our memories of God's promises

- 1) During times of sickness, burdens, tiredness, anxiety or stress, we must renew our memories of God's promises.
- 2) Look for God's promises in the Bible and mark them.
- 3) Memorise God's promises.
- 4) Meditate on God's promises. (Psalms 1:2) "*But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.*"
- 5) Sing of God's promises. *Great is thy Faithfulness, Cast Your Burden on the Lord, It will be Worth it All, etc.*
- 6) This life is not the end. Living for the Lord will pay eternal dividends. It will be worth it all when we see Jesus.

Conclusion: Whether or not you have been struggling with sickness, burdens, tiredness, anxiety or stress you must keep your spirit revived. If you do not, the devil will get you down. When that happens, you must revive your spirit. To do so, **reestablish** your spiritual footing, **rekindle** your abounding in God's work, and **renew** your remembering of God's promises. God is watching, (Proverbs 15:3) "*The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.*"

Song: When We See Christ, 149

Reviving Our Spirits

30 June 2019 PM – 1 Corinthians 15:58 – Revival – Scott Childs

Introduction: When wolves hunt for prey, they usually work in packs. They may chase their prey until the young, weak, or sick lag behind making an easy target. Wolves often wound their prey and wait for exhaustion to wear them down. They hunt well in deep, crusted snow. Large animals like deer and elk break through the snow and struggle to run, whereas the light wolf runs on top of the snow.

The devil and his demons often attack us in a similar manner. They know that we are easy prey when **sickness, burdens, tiredness, anxiety** or **stress** wear us down and we become spiritually weak. For this reason, we must keep our spirit's revived, especially during trying times.

Transition: Our text this evening gives us **three clear instructions** that, if followed, will revive our spirits when we are spiritually down.

(1 Corinthians 15:58) "*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable.*"

1. We must Reestablish our Footing

a. Our footing must be steadfast

- 1) The word **steadfast** means **seated, settled and solid**. **Just as sports players often wear shoes with grips on the bottom to keep their footing steadfast**, so we must make sure our spiritual footing is firm and solid.
- 2) Because the context of 1 Corinthians 15 is God's promise of resurrection and immortal life, we must have a firm grip on these promises. When we are down, the devil will tell us that we have no reason to stand strong spiritually. He is a liar. **We have a bright eternal future!**
- 3) Be **steadfast** in **Bible study and prayer**! When we are down and defeated, often the first duty we neglect is our personal time with God. Bible and prayer is our spiritual nourishment. (Psalms 119:133) "*Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.*" If we lose our footing in this area, we will fall into the devil's trap and make a mess of our lives.
- 4) Be **steadfast** in **character**! Guard your heart. (Proverbs

4:23) "*Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.*" Keep the doors of your lips. (Psalms 19:14) "*Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.*" Speak the truth. Be honest. Do right! Be wise! Be prudent! (Proverbs 22:3) "*A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.*"

5) Be steadfast in **godly living**!

- a) Keep yourself pure. (1 John 3:3) "*And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.*"
- b) Live sober holy lives. (1 Peter 1:14-15) "*As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation,*"
- c) Keep looking for the Lord's return. (Philippians 3:20) "*For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:*"
- d) Live for eternity not for this life. (Colossians 3:2) "*Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.*"

b. Our footing must be unmovable

- 1) This means that we must not be moved from our place. Do not allow outside forces or people to move you.
- 2) It is one thing to keep yourself steadfast. It is another thing to **resist external pressures to compromise** your stand.
- 3) Be unmovable in **biblical convictions**! By careful Bible study, establish biblical convictions in your heart and do not budge!
- 4) Be unmovable by **staying** away from those who cause you to question Bible truth. (1 Corinthians 15:33) "*Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.*" This includes all false teachers on the Internet.
- 5) Be unmovable by **resting** on God your rock foundation. (Psalms 62:6) "*He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defence; I shall not be moved.*"

(1 Corinthians 15:58) "*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord,*"

2. We must Rekindle our Abounding in God's Work

a. Our work for the Lord is prone to go slack

- 1) Defeated Christians do very little for God.
- 2) Cold-hearted Christians are apathetic about God's work. They do not care enough to serve God with their heart.
- 3) When we have sin in our hearts, our hearts lose interest in serving the Lord. We may mechanically serve, but with no enthusiasm or power.
✧ *When a campfire begins to die down it must be rekindled by moving the cooling embers closer together, adding fuel and perhaps blowing on the coals.*
- 4) When the spiritual fire in your heart dies down, you must rekindle it in much the same way. Add the fuel of Bible study and meditation and then fan it into a blazing fire with fervent confession and prayer.

b. We must rekindle our work for the Lord.

- 1) Ask God to show you what He wants you to do.
- 2) Look for someone with whom you can share a tract and witness. Pray for such opportunities.
- 3) *Always* keep busy again doing something for the Lord.
- 4) If you are not a church member, become one and get involved. *Abound in the work of the Lord.* (1 Thes. 4:1) "*Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.*"
- 5) Come 10 minutes early to each church service to pray and welcome those who come.
- 6) Arrange to make calls or go door-knocking.

(1 Corinthians 15:58) "*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.*"

3. We must Renew our Remembering

a. The devil wants us to forget God's promises

- 1) *I do not know about you, but I have a good memory for*