The Exhortation of 1 Corinthians 15:58

1 Corinthians 15:58

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

Be steadfast, un-moveable

- •Seated; moral fixity
- Stable, firm, and unshaken
- The Lord want us to be grounded, seated, fixed, stable, and firm in their faith, not vacillating between belief and unbelief, morality and immorality.
- Take a stand in your faith for the truth of the gospel, and don't move.
- Opposites: to be shaken, to drift from, to stray from, to be moved away from, to turn away from

Be steadfast, un-moveable even in the midst of...

Afflictions and persecutions

- 1 Thessalonians 3:1-3
- Acts 20:24
- What is falsely called knowledge
 - 1 Timothy 6:20-21
- Immorality
 - Ephesians 5:11
- Error
 - 2 Thessalonians 2:2
 - Colossians 2:6-7

 Always abounding in the work of the Lord Diligently, laboriously, excelling • Hebrews 6:11-12 • Luke 14:33 •What is the work of the Lord? Colossians 3:23-24

 Knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord

Great motivator

• Toiling, painful, difficult, hard

• In the Lord

"<u>Therefore</u>, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

 Paul had taught them the truth of the gospel, about the death, the burial, and the resurrection of Christ

- According to Scripture
- He was seen by the apostles and over 500 brethren at once
- You can be sure about the gospel!
- They received and believed these truths

But some among them were saying there is no resurrection of the dead
But if you're going to say this, then you're going to have to say that Christ was not raised.

- And if Christ is not raised, then...
 - The apostles' preaching is vain
 - Your faith is vain
 - The apostles are false witnesses of God
 - You are still in your sins
 - Christians who have already died have simply perished like animals die
 - Christians have hope only in this life and are thus most pitiable
 - Why risk our lives for the sake of the gospel?
 - Why not just eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die?
 - This is serious. This is the consequence of denying the resurrection of the dead. Don't be deceived – evil company corrupts good morals.
 - You need to have nothing to do with the denial of the resurrection!

- But Christ is raised from the dead!
 - He is the first fruits and thus a promise that you will be resurrected.
- And since Christ is raised from the dead,
 - And Christ died for our sins
 - Then the sting of death is gone for the Christian
 - And we believe in a resurrection unto eternal life
 - Blessed and living hope!
 - So we know our labor is not in vain in the Lord

"<u>Therefore</u>, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."