*Monday, July 22, 2013*

**Works**

Luke 5:4-6 Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. 5 And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net. 6 And when they had this done, they enclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. (KJV)

Strong’s definition for ‘toiled’ - 2872 kopiao (kop-ee-ah'-o); from a derivative of 2873; to feel fatigue; by implication, to work hard: KJV-- (bestow) labor, toil, be wearied.

There has to be a better way, I feel like I exert so much energy and sense I am getting nowhere fast. Isn’t the above example something we can all relate to, or maybe it is something you are dealing with today? Peter toiled all night; or another way of looking at it is, walking in darkness until he encountered someone who could show him how to get some real results.

Luke 5:7-9 And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink. 8 When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord. 9 For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken: (KJV)

Isn’t that why you came to the Lord in the first place, because you experienced some real results that you knew were not a result of luck or coincidence? You saw the light of God go on and enlighten you to a much better way, a free gift that could not be earned. So why all the heartache and misery Church; you know where you work yourself into a tizzy and end up with an empty net? Maybe its time to rethink your efforts and let someone else take over again before you go off the deep end.

Luke 12:27-29 Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and tomorrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith? 29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. (KJV)

Sometimes we lose sight of the simplicity of God’s realm and revert back to our own works which in reality don’t work. Many of God’s people begin so well in the Spirit and then get sidetracked by works, their works; which if they didn’t work in the past why would they work now?

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. 14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works. (KJV)

The enemy has planted false apostles out in the field like tares among the wheat. These so called preachers will preach a message of salvation by grace, and then turn around and tell the people they need to get dunked in water or abide by some other silly outdated work. As we see, the end result in verse 15 is based on their works and not the Lord’s.

God bless dearly loved, and have a prosperous day in Christ Jesus our Lord.