

Spiritual Burnout Lesson I

Text: II Peter 1:3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

II Corinthians 10:3-5 ³ For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: ⁴ (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) ⁵ Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

I 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.

Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for *in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*

Introduction: Have you ever watched a rocket launched into space? Have you noticed how it gets into orbit? The rocket is divided into different sections or STAGES. One stage carries it until it completes its allotted time and as it runs out of fuel, another STAGE immediately takes over and continues the mission. Our Christian life is supposed to be like that—one generation passes away and God takes them out of sight, another generation takes their place and takes up the mission.

What happens when the Plan of the Past is no longer working? **CHURCHES CLOSE DOWN—CHRISTIANS WANDER OFF-COURSE/DIE--GOD'S WORK IS FORCED TO GO ELSEWHERE**

I. Mental Burnout Definition: 11/22 Reader's Digest—BEYOND BURNOUT- “Think of burnout as stress taken to another level. Typically, burnout is defined as an extreme state of psychological stain. It's a response to facing prolonged chronic stress that goes beyond your ability or available resources to overcome. Because many of us frequently feel stressed, it can be hard to recognize when the line has been crossed. True burnout is different from feeling overextended. Burnout combines 3 key dimensions—1. Overwhelming exhaustion, 2. Feelings of cynicism (pessimism or skepticism), 3. And a sense of Discouragement, Inadequacy or low Accomplishments

II. Spiritual Burnout is Similar but pertains to our SPIRITUAL MIND and ATTITUDE toward GOD and His WORK

III. What would Jesus (our General) Say to His People Today?

- a. Remind us of our DUTY—OUR ASSIGNMENT —THE HOUR--This is our SEASON to WORK or FIGHT in His ARMY
- b. Assess the Situation--- 1st Church faced Persecutions—OTHER SEASONS: Financial Hardships, Evil Church Priests and False Doctrine-- Luther faced CATHOLISM---WESLEY faced DISASSOCIATION and ISOLATION from his home church—EARLY PENTECOSTALS faced POVERTY and ATTACKS from ESTABLISHED Denominations
We face APOSTACY and DISCOURAGEMENT throughout our Ranks—A GREAT SEASON of GREAT FALLING AWAY—LOW WATER MARKS IN CHURCH ATTENDANCE —LOW WATER MARKS IN SOULS BEING SAVED—LOW WATER MARKS IN ENCOURAGEMENT AND HOLY GHOST BAPTISMS
- c. Make a Speech of Encouragement to His Followers for Past/Future Battles that all have faced or will soon face.
- d. Care for the Wounded and Shell-Shocked Soldiers
- e. See to Resupplying His Troops with Essential Equipment

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- f. REDIRECT HIS Leaders and PICK out SPECIAL Soldiers for Upcoming DUTIES for the FULFILLMENT of HIS PLAN for BATTLE.

IV. Things We Must Understand about the WORK of GOD

1. **Although it is our Duty to Work, it is not our job to HOLD-UP the Work of God. God is its HEAD and His Power is its source—ARK and UZZIAH**
2. **We must continually be RENEWED and REFRESHED by the Holy Spirit or we will become SPIRITUALLY over-taxed and WEAK**
3. **We should KEEP our EYES on JESUS and OUR DUTY—not on what others DO or DON'T Do—**
4. **God has Provided POWERFUL WEAPONS to Help us in HIS WORK—USE THEM**

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- a. HOLY GHOST BAPTISM/PRESENCE and ANOINTING
- b. THE WORD OF GOD
- c. PRAYER
- d. SPECIAL GIFTS for the BODY OF CHRIST—

I CO. 12:28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

Romans 12:4-8 ⁴For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: ⁵So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. ⁶Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; ⁷Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; ⁸Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness

SUPERNATURAL GIFTS of the SPIRIT—I Corinthians 12:8-11 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; ⁹To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; ¹⁰To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: ¹¹But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

5. **NO OTHER SUBSTITUTES ARE ORDAINED BY GOD--Nothing ELSE HAS GOD'S BLESSING or FAVOR**
MARRIAGE INVITATION
WIPE OFF THE DUST THAT CLINGS TO YOUR FEET
RICH YOUNG RULER
6. **This is A SEASON—OUR SEASON to Work- We can not change the season but we can stay faithful**
Other Seasons had ISSUES TOO—Persecutions-CATHOLISM- FALSE DOCTRINE-ESTABLISHED RELIGION
7. **Our Work for GOD is not in RESULTS but in COMMITMENT and FAITHFULNESS**
NOAH, ABRAHAM, RUTH, ESTHER, DANIEL, JEREMIAH, EZEKIEL, SAMUEL, ISAIAH, EZRA, JOEL, AMOS, NEHEMIAH, HOSEA... **ALL WITHOUT NOTICABLE FOLLOWERS OR CONVERTS—YET GREAT IN THE RECORD OF GOD'S WORD**