



TUESDAY 16th
MAY 2023

Digging Deep

TOPIC - THE OBSTACLES AND OBLIGATIONS

TEXTS: Gen. 1:28, Jn.15: 1-8

INTRODUCTION.

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he that winneth souls is wise." Pro. 11:30

And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever. Dan. 12:3

Many Christians hear the above scriptures all the time and they even preach it; yet there are only very few involved in this aspect of fruit-bearing. The few that do are not committed to much fruits. So we ask what could possibly be the problem?

In our study today, we will look at some of the obstacles and also at the obligations of bearing fruits which will motivate us to commit ourselves to this forgotten business of God.

OBSTACLES TO BEARING FRUITS.

1. Laziness. **Pro. 26:13, Ecc. 10:18**
2. Variableness. **Rev. 3:16, 1 Cor.15:8**
3. Fear - The fear of saying the wrong thing, The fear of being mocked, The fear of rejection etc. But the Bible says perfect love overrides fear **Acts 4:31, 1 Jn 4:18; Rev. 18:10, Pro.29:25**
4. The difficulties with our adversary. **Eph. 6:12**
 - a. Satan will cause resentment in the hearts of sinners. **Lk 9:51-56**
 - b. Satan will turn the sinner's attention on the unpleasant features of the Gospel message. **Matt.19:21-22**
 - c. Satan will create difficult and embarrassing situations. **Acts 16:23-31**
 - d. Satan will by numerous means try to discourage the soul-winner. **2 Cor.4: 8-9**

THE OBLIGATIONS OF PERSONAL SOUL-WINNING

Knowing that fruitfulness is an obligation should drive us beyond and over any obstacles in our way. The following Scriptures will help us to see Soulwinning as an obligation and not a suggestion. **Rom.1:14, Mk. 16:15, Matt. 28:18,19, Lk. 2:49, Psa. 126:6, Pro. 11:30, Ecc. 11:1,6, Jn. 3:36, Psa. 142:4.**

Please note that even though a sense of obligation will keep us going regardless of any barrier, we must understand that God doesn't want us to do things out of compulsion. **(1 Cor. 9:7).** It is the Love of Christ that should constrain us to become fruitful. **2 Cor. 5:14&15.**

CONCLUSION

We have been chosen from eternity **(Eph. 1:4)**, by the Lord of Glory, and set aside to the vocation of winning the lost **(Eph. 2:10)**. Are we fulfilling that high purpose for which the Lord has saved us? He has ordained that we should 'Go and bring forth fruit...' - that is, produce results! **2 Cor. 5:14-15&20, Ezk. 33:7-8, Dan. 12:3, Isa. 53:11**