#### Don't Miss Out!

Galatians 6:9

James 1:12; Romans 8:37; 1 John 4:4; 2 Tim. 4:6-8

**Dr. Paul Cannings**

**A.      Its’ His Time (vs. 9):**

 1.     Let us not Faint/lose heart – We must not allow ourselves to continually, in the midst of

 difficulties, become so afraid or discouraged that we lose the motivation to persevere. We

 may still do what is expected with a sincere heart to see it to the end.

           a)     But Christians may become discouraged with spiritual sowing because the

 harvest is often a long time coming. In the face of this reality the apostle

 charged the Galatians not to become weary or give up because the harvest

 is sure. (Paul included himself as he no doubt contemplated his sometimes

 -frustrating labors on behalf of the Galatian Christians.) The reaping will

 come at God’s proper time, which may be only in part in this life and in

 full in the life to come at the judgment seat of Christ.[[1]](#footnote-1)[1]

 b)     Verse nine. In verse 8, Paul exhorts the Galatians to govern their lives with

 a view to the Spirit’s control over them. Now, he exhorts them not to become

 weary in that course of action. The words “be weary,” are from egkakeo

 (ἐγκακεο) which was used of husbandmen who are tempted to slacken

 their exertions by reason of the weariness caused by prolonged effort.

 The word faint is from ekluo (ἐκλυο) which was used of reapers who

 were overcome by heat and toil. The word means “to relax effort,

 to become exhausted physically.” The incentive to keep on working was,

 that at the right time they would gather the harvest. [[2]](#footnote-2)[2]

2.     Doing/Do practice – Doing good is continuous and it is not dependent on anything other than the person’s commitment to Christ (5:1, 15-18).

3.     Good/Things that are honest/Respectful – What we must not faint from doing is completing what is honest, honorable and agreeable for those particular situations.

a)    The word translated **good** is literally “well-being”; a different word for good is used in verse 10. Perhaps we should not press the distinction between these two words, but if one is to be made, “doing good “in this verse it would refer generally to any action done for others or for oneself that results in well-being. In verse 10 it would refer primarily to things done for the benefit of others.[[3]](#footnote-3)[3]

4.     Due season – Due season aligns with Ecclesiastes 3:1 which ways; “There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event under heaven.” So, this is the appointed time that is distinctive for the particular situation for a person to have ownership for what they have earned. This can sometimes come to fruition only in heaven (2 Timothy 4:6-8).

 a)     That is, we shall reap the fruit which God promises, if we “persevere to the end.”

 (Matt. 10:22.) Those who do not persevere resemble indolent husbandmen, who,

 after ploughing and sowing, leave the work unfinished, and neglect to take the

 necessary precautions for protecting the seed from being devoured by birds, or

 scorched by the sun or destroyed by cold. It is to no purpose that we begin to do

 good, if we do not press forward to the goal.[[4]](#footnote-4)[4]

5.     Reap – When the right time comes the benefits of a person’s work will be at its full maturity, so the person receives the best of their labor.

 a)     Paul expounds on sowing and reaping based on the sinful nature (this

 could be a reference back to vs. 1-4) and on the Spirit. This could be

 a reflection on what he discussed in chapter 5:16-21.

6.     Grow weary – Receiving the full maturity of God’s blessings to us only takes place if we do not relax or choose not to fulfill what God has called us to do, because we have become exhausted or caught up in the sin (6:1-2) and choose to release ourselves from the ‘chastening hand of God’ (John 15:1-11; Hebrews 12:7-11).

**B.        Be Blessed While Being a Blessing (vs. 10):**

 1.     We have opportunity – When the Lord provides us a task to do, we must continually take

 hold of it because that is the direct purpose for which He has placed it before us.

2.     Let us do; Work – We must make ourselves expend a lot of effort (Ecclesiastes 9:10) as if we have been employed by the Lord (Ephesians 4:12 – ‘work of service’ – work is a lot of energy) to minister for Him.

a)   “ Let us” – the call to the church.

b)     Sharing materially with someone who is in need which leads to answered prayers (1 John 3:16-21).

3.     Let us do good – We must make ourselves do what benefits others, even if it is benevolent, because this is what is directly connected to us working and seeking to please the Lord. Whatever we are doing must be profitable for the kingdom of God.

4.     Especially…. Of the household – Far above anyone or anything else, the service provided, and all the energy that is executed, must be directed to those who are in the church.

5.     Household of faith – The church family must be made up of those who have a deep conviction, intense trust and full surrender to the divine truths of God’s Word. It is this mindset that causes these believers to remain steadfast in their trust in God to bring them through no matter the intensity of their trials.

a)     The family in the faith is, literally, “the household of faith.” **The imagery suggests that Christians are like members of one family, the distinguishing aspect of which is their faith in Jesus Christ**. The church is thus the “household of God” (Eph 2:19). **Our family in the faith may be rendered in some languages as “our fellow believers in Christ,” or “those who along with us also trust Christ and are thus a kind of family**.”[[5]](#footnote-5)[5]

6.     Household of faith – When the Lord’s family has full trust in His Word their steadfastness causes them to not grow weary; which therefore blesses them to experience the full blessing of their reward.

1. [1] Campbell, D. K. (1985). [Galatians](https://ref.ly/logosres/bkc?ref=Bible.Ga6.9&off=5&ctx=6%3a9.+~But+Christians+may+become+discourag). In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures (Vol. 2, p. 610). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [2] Wuest, K. S. (1997). [Wuest’s word studies from the Greek New Testament: for the English reader](https://ref.ly/logosres/wuest?ref=Bible.Ga6.9&off=0&ctx=+reap+life+eternal.%0a~Verse+nine.+In+verse) (Vol. 3, p. 173). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. [3] Arichea, D. C., & Nida, E. A. (1976). [A handbook on Paul’s letter to the Galatians](https://ref.ly/logosres/ubshbk69?ref=Bible.Ga6.9&off=592&ctx=elax+our+efforts%E2%80%9D).%0a~The+word+translated+) (p. 152). New York: United Bible Societies. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. [4] Calvin, J., & Pringle, W. (2010). [Commentaries on the Epistles of Paul to the Galatians and Ephesians](https://ref.ly/logosres/calcom69ga?ref=Bible.Ga6.9&off=946&ctx=s.%0aIf+we+faint+not.+~That+is%2c+we+shall+re) (p. 180). Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. [5] Arichea, D. C., & Nida, E. A. (1976). [A handbook on Paul’s letter to the Galatians](https://ref.ly/logosres/ubshbk69?ref=Bible.Ga6.10&off=1070&ctx=amily+in+the+faith.+~The+family+in+the+fa) (p. 153). New York: United Bible Societies. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)