

Hold Fast to the Word of Life

Scripture

“Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for [His] good pleasure. Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.” (Philippians 2:12-16 NKJV)

Thesis

Working out your salvation involves holding fast to the Word of life.

Commentary

Paul gives us a command to work our salvation with fear and trembling, and then tells us one specific way to do that. That way is to do all things without complaining or disputing.

This is not a little thing for selfish creatures. Only by the Spirit of God may one accomplish such a lofty goal. Therefore, Paul also tells us how to go about fulfilling this command. He says to hold fast to the Word of life.

We should note the seriousness of this admonition. Notice the purpose behind his words. He says that we are to hold fast so that he might rejoice in the day of Christ that he had not labored in vain. Well the implication is clear. Not holding fast will prove the vessel dishonorable.

Never stop working out your salvation. In this world, we are always in a life-and-death battle. Put on the whole armor of God and keep it on.

The result will be a light shining in the world, blameless and harmless. It is a good testimony that validates the message of the Gospel. If a man's actions don't agree with his words, those who hear will doubt even his intentions. Would listen to a man who cried, "Peace, peace," and then complained about everyone around him?

Therefore, you see my friend that working out your salvation is important for you and those around you. Hold fast to the Word of life and you will do just that, amen.

Father, forgive our selfish failures. Give us a Spirit of love that we might fulfill your calling to do all things without complaining and disputing. Meet with us as we open your Word to commune with you. Fill us with Scripture that our mouths might speak heavenly things. Hear the cry of the broken hearted, and revive us again for your glory, amen.