

Luke 15:9-10 ...there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth. Also **Luke 15:5-6**

Luke 15:22-24 ...But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: 23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: 24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

There is joy to be experienced by the soul winner now,

John 4:36 And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.

There will be great joy in that day when we are all gathered into the presence of the Lord,

Matt. 25:21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

Is there any joy like the joy of winning a soul to Christ?

And if the joy is great now, what will it be then, when we see those whom we have won in the presence of the Lord

1 Thess. 2:19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?

6. The successful Christian Worker will NOT BE EMPTY HANDED in the day of harvest

The successful worker/sower will bring his sheaves with him! How very sad to be unsuccessful, to go to Heaven without ever having tried to sow or reap, empty handed!

**When the harvest days are past,
Shall I hear Him say at last,
"Welcome, toiler, I've prepared for thee a place"?
Shall I bring Him golden sheaves,
Ripened fruit, not faded leaves,
When I see the blessed Saviour face to face?**

A PROMISE TO SOWERS OF THE WORD - Psalm 126

The last two verses of this psalm are the key verses of this study, and the last two phrases in particular are wonderfully prophetic, in a three fold sense.

These words are prophetic, or descriptive of Christian workers.

There is a three fold contrast:

- (1) going forth and coming again;
- (2) weeping and rejoicing;
- (3) bearing seed and bringing sheaves.

Let us look at the description of the SOWER in **Psa. 126:6**

"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

1. The Christian Worker is one who GOES FORTH

Mark 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

We read the Great Commission that is binding upon every Christian.

(1) Note the word "GOETH".

This implies activity, movement. The important part of Christian service is the actual doing of it.

This was the secret of the marvelous success that attended the labors of the apostles, "**they went forth . . .**",

Mark 16:20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

Are you "going"?

Matt. 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

(2) Note the word "FORTH".

This implies leaving one place and going to another. It could mean leaving home and going to India or Africa. It certainly means that if we are to be used of the Lord we must go where He sends us, to where lost sinners are waiting to be saved, and many of them are waiting.

We need to be stirred out of the rut of ease, selfishness and neglect, to go forth in the name of the Lord. Are you going forth to save souls,

Acts 8:4 Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.

2. The Christian Worker needs to have a PASSION FOR SOULS

"He that goeth forth and weepeth . . .". It is not enough to go, we must have compassion for the souls of men; to be concerned with this heavenly concern for the lost; and once we are really concerned our tears will flow.

Isa. 66:18 For I know their works and their thoughts

If we would travail in prayer, we should soon have the joy of bringing forth children and seeing people born into God's family.

Matt. 9:36 But when he (Jesus) saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Jer. 9:1; Acts 20:19

When did we last weep over a poor lost soul?

On one occasion General Booth received a message from one of his officers saying that the work was so hard that he could make no progress. The General replied with a telegram, "Try tears!" Perhaps that is the Lord's message to you? Gal. 4:19

Jer. 8:20 The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.

3. The Christian Worker is one who SOWS SEED

All true Christian service consists of seed sowing, taking a Sunday School class, distributing tracts, Gospel DVDs, preaching, visiting the sick, letter writing.

Luke 8:11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

See what the seed is,

(1) This seed is precious

Psa. 126:6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him. 2 Pet. 1:4

There is none like it; it is life giving,

John 6:63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

(2) This seed is powerful

Rom. 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth...

Heb. 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of

soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

It can turn sinners into Saints,

Psa. 19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

(3) This seed is productive

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

It brings forth an eternal harvest.

But the seed must be sown! Seed in the basket will never produce a harvest. It is not the truth we know but the truth we sow that bears fruit, and we shall reap what we sow! Sow wheat, and there will be a harvest of wheat; sow truth, and there will be a glorious harvest; sow error, and there will be a harvest of shame,

Gal. 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

4. The Christian Worker has A GREAT ASSURANCE

He knows that he will **"doubtless, without doubt, come again with rejoicing"**. There may be much toil and many tears now, but the harvest is assured. There are two victory promises in which the Christian Worker can rejoice.

Isa. 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

1 Cor. 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.

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

5. The Christian Worker will know the JOY OF HARVEST

Psa. 126:5, 6, "with rejoicing", They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. 6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.