

HARD WORK: A DEMAND FOR DILIGENCE

A message delivered by Pastor Abraham Ojemeh on Thursday Chapel Service, September 18, 2014.

Diligence is a prerequisite for exploits in life. Exploit in terms of what we are looking at today, simply means to be outstanding; to be distinguished, to turn heads, to be the best among the best, among the successful, you are the most successful. But that is not possible without diligence.

Proverbs 22:29, "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men." That is a word from the wisest man that ever lived in Bible times. If you are diligent, you would be outstanding. So, diligence is the gateway to your enthronement; career enthronement, educational enthronement, spiritual enthronement, financial enthronement, etc. Whatever area of your life you want to move to the next level; the Bible says diligence is inevitable.

Proverbs 12:24, "The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute." You will be subjected to other people's whims and caprices when you are slothful. In Proverbs 10:4, "He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich."

Look at that word, 'becometh,' it shows it is a process. The moment you allow slothfulness, you have already put into process the machinery for you to become poor. But he said, "The hand of the diligent maketh rich." So, you can start to decide where you want to belong. But if you would put diligence in place, you know without any doubt, you will make it to the top.

Without any doubt, diligence is a mandatory tool for success in life.

Requiements For Diligence

1. You must have a goal
2. You must convert your assignments to tasks – don't just have balloon dreams, convert them to projects.

Demands Of Dilligence

1. **Hard Work** – Proverbs 13:11, "Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labour shall increase." Wealth gotten by shortcut, gimmicks, tricks, shall diminish, but a man that gathers by labour shall increase. Proverbs 14:23, "In all labour

there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury." If profiting is your goal, then labour must be your practice. But talking the talk without walking the walk, leads to penury. In any area, academic, business, spiritual, etc., labour is required to make profit.

What Is God's Perspective Concerning Work?

2 Thessalonians 3:10, "For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat." Life without work is dangerous.

John 5:17, "But Jesus answered them, 'My Father worketh hitherto and I work.'" In Genesis 2:15, "And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it." Dr. David Oyedepo once said, "The only alternative to hard work is hard life."

- ❖ **Commitment** – Hebrews 11:6, "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." When we talk about hard work, we are talking about commitment, not truck pushing. Be committed to what you do. Your commitment brings your senses up to produce results. Dr. David Oyedepo said, "When your assignment becomes a task, your senses will come alive."

Ecclesiastes 9:10, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest." Whatever does not demand your commitment cannot command a reward.

What Is The Purpose For Hard Work?

Until your hard work is upgraded to service, it would not deliver to you. If you want to work hard because of money, then you have missed it. If you are studying hard, investing hard, working hard, etc., in other to be rich, then you have missed it.

Hard work Delivers Only On These Two Platforms

1. **Service to humanity** – Acts 13:36, "For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption..." Up till today, Jerusalem is still called the 'City of David.' Anywhere you find yourself, work in such a way that when you leave, they will miss you. Be committed to contributions.
2. **Service To God** - Ephesians 6:5-6, "Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will

of God from the heart...” Do it from the heart, not by eyeservice. Hard work means, ‘HEART WORK.’ So, in summary, whatever you do, work very hard at it, but upgrade the entire investment to service to humanity and service to God.