

# Remembering What We Must Do

(*And continue to do*)

**Text:** 1 Thessalonians 1:2-4

## **Introduction:**

1. As our society becomes more and more complex, it seems as though there are more things to remember.
2. The more that we are to remember the more we forget.
  - a. It is either a sign of progress or a sign of our 'overloaded' mind.
  - b. Sometimes we forget and do not remember.
  - c. And, there are sometimes we wish to forget all together.
3. Spiritually speaking the Apostle Paul told the church at Thessalonica that there were three things that he remembered about them.
  - a. Their work of faith
  - b. Their labor of love
  - c. Their patience of hope
4. In these Scriptures we are told some things what we must continue to do and be reminded of.

### **I. Our work of faith (v 3)**

#### A. Work is a requirement

1. For our own salvation – **Philippians 2:12**
2. We must have our priorities straight – **Matthew 6:33**
3. Believing that God is who He says that He is – **Hebrews 11:6**
  - a. Believing in His Promises – **2 Corinthians 1:20**
  - b. Believing that He is the source all knowledge -- **Proverbs 1:5-7**

#### B. We must work at our faith – **James 2:18-26**

1. Daily being reminded of Whom we serve – **Joshua 24:15; Colossians 3:24**
2. Daily being reminded to resist temptations – **1 Corinthians 10:13; 1 Peter 5:8**
3. Daily being reminded to discern good and evil – **Hebrews 5:14**
4. Daily being reminded to abstain from all appearances of evil – **Psalm 1:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 5:22**

### **II. Our labor of love (v 3)**

#### A. The greatest attribute that we can have – **1 Corinthians 13:13**

#### B. Love is required of God – **Romans 12:9; Jude 21**

1. The first and great commandment – **Matthew 22:37, 38**
2. The second is to love thy neighbor as thyself – **Matthew 22:39**
3. The reason -- *upon these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets* – **Matthew 22:40**

#### C. Love is of God – **Ephesians 2:4**

1. For He is love
  - a. In His sending His Son to earth to die on the cross for our sins – **John 3:16**

- b. In His love for mankind – His blessings – His guidance – His comfort that He provides
- 2. Whom abundantly gives mercy – **1 Peter 1:3**
- 3. Whom gives eternal life – **John 10:25-30**
- 4. Whom wants all to repent and not perish – **2 Peter 3:9**
- 5. Whom wants all to be saved in coming to the knowledge of the truth – **1 Timothy 2:4**

### **III. Our patience of hope (v 3)**

- A. Hope springs eternal in the soul – **Titus 1:2, 3:7**
  - 1. Must have the patience of Job – **James 5:11**
  - 2. A patience that brings satisfaction of the hope of the promises of our Lord
- B. Of great things hoped for – **Romans 8:24, 25**
  - 1. A better tomorrow
    - a. Something beyond the grave that awaits the weary soul
    - b. Something beyond the grave that our hope is based upon – **1 Corinthians 13:13; Hebrews 7:19**
  - 2. Resurrection from the dead with a new heavenly body – **1 Corinthians 15:51-57**
  - 3. Eternal life with our Great and Almighty God – **Matthew 25:46b**

### **Conclusion:**

- 1. Many things we must remember to do but, the most important thing in our life here on earth is to prepare for the next life – the eternal life that awaits all.
  - a. Paul, told the Thessalonians what he remembered most about them was:
    - i. Their work of faith
    - ii. Their labor of love
    - iii. Their patience of hope
    - iv. These three are also mentioned by Paul in the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter of 1 Corinthians abiding in the Christian with the greatest of these as love.
  - b. We can be as the 1<sup>st</sup> century Christians by remembering that we must work at our faith, labor for the King in love for lost souls and having patience in our hope of a better tomorrow, a new life forever without all of the heartaches of this old world.
- 2. Yes, God tells us that there is a better tomorrow and because of His love for us He sent His Son to die in our place that we may have eternal life.