

GETTING STRONGER TO BE A RESPONSIBLE SERVANT OF GOD

“Therefore, my brethren, make every effort, so that your calling and choice may become firmer. For if you do, you will never stumble” (2 Peter 1:10)

Every disciple of God is taught to be more firm in fulfilling the calling of service entrusted by God to the end. And in order to be more steadfast in our calling for service, it requires serious and responsible efforts from each of us who are waiting for the coming of the Lord's day, namely the day of the second coming of the Lord Jesus. His Word in 2 Peter 3:9-13 says, "The Lord is not negligent in keeping His promise, even though some consider it to be negligence, but He is patient with you, for He desires that none should perish, but that all may turn back." and repent. 10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. On that day the heavens will pass away with a great roar and the elements of the world will be scorched in flames, and the earth and all that is on it will disappear. 11 So if all these things are to be destroyed in this way, how holy and godly you must live 12 that is, you who wait and hasten the coming of the day of God. On that day the heavens will perish in fire and the elements of the world will be destroyed by their flames. But according to His promise, we look forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where there is truth.” God's servants who want to be truly holy and pious, are willing to take responsibility and strive earnestly, will surely long for the coming of God. God and can even hasten His second coming (verse 12; Matt. 24:22). In this life, there are still many Christians who still doubt the salvation they have received from God and have not been active in doing God's work (1 Cor. 15:58). Christians, especially those who have become servants of God, need to always try harder. After receiving the gift of forgiveness from God for the forgiveness of sins we need to continue to grow in a better knowledge of Christ (2 Peter 1:3-8). God's part for our lives is to give us everything that is useful for godly living and bestows very precious and very great promises (verse 3), but our part is to really try (note the words really really try” in 2 Peter 1:5 & “try earnestly” in verse 10). This means that there is good cooperation between God as the source of grace (John 1:16-18) and us who receive His grace. By His grace we can strive earnestly to progress in faith because we want to abide in the Lord and His word which also abides in us. And the progress of our faith growth as His disciples, will produce fruit that glorifies the Father in all aspects of our lives. Our sincerity will make us more steadfast in our calling and choice. As people who have been freed from sin, we are actually people who have been called and chosen by God (John 15:16). And if we love God and are called according to His plan, then all will be for good (Romans 8:28). For that we must keep trying earnestly to live in His grace and even we must continue to walk with courage to approach the throne of God's grace, so that we receive grace and find grace to get our help in time (Hebrews 4:16). But if we deviate from the path of His grace, then we can fail to receive the gift of eternal life. In fact, eternal life is a gift from God for everyone who lives faithfully and stays faithful in obeying His word. Therefore, let us be more steadfast in our calling and choice. Our responsibility is to try really hard. And if we want to really try to do it, then we will also be more determined. Amen!

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