

STRENGTH IN FULFILLING GOD'S CALL

„Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.“ (John 12:26, NIV)

John 12:26 is telling us that we are all called to be His followers and to serve Him. And if we are where God is, then God will be glorified. Our heavenly Father has great respect for those who want to serve Him with all their heart. We can only serve God if we live in His mighty power (Eph. 6:10; 2 Tim. 2:1). So, what the Lord Jesus said in John 12:26, means that we who are in the Lord will receive strength to serve Him, I believe. 1 John 2:6 says, "Whoever says that he is in Him must live, just as Christ lived." The Lord died on the cross for our sins and rose on the third day to reveal His victorious power over death, so that we who believe in Him may also live in victory, even more than those who overcome through Him who loved us (Romans 8:37). After the ascension of the Lord Jesus to heaven, ten days later the Holy Spirit was poured out to fill His disciples and give them the power to be His witnesses (Acts 1:8; 2:1-47). And the Holy Spirit will continue to be with us until the Lord Jesus returns the second time. Every believer who is willing to serve Him according to His plan and will be with God to the end. The final line of every person who fulfills the calling in His power, which has two categories. The first category is: those who died before the Lord Jesus returns will rest from their toil after ending their vocation in this world when God calls their home (Revelation 14:13). Those who die in this category will rest in "Paradise" (Paradise) as a temporary resting place until God's trumpet sounds (1 Thessalonians 4:16). The second category: The faithful who are still alive when the Lord Jesus comes on the second time, they will immediately be caught up with the dead in Christ who was resurrected to meet the Lord Jesus in the clouds at the time of His coming - when God's trumpet sounds (1 Thessalonians 4:17). That is the finish line for believers who receive strength in fulfilling His calling and who will enter into a new era of eternal life with the Lord Jesus Christ. That is the future for His servants who are strong and who carry out their ministry according to His plan and will (Matthew 7:21-23). The Apostle Paul reveals an important secret to us about what the key to success is to be able to reach the finish line well. He said: "But I don't care about my life in the slightest, as long as I can reach the finish line and complete the ministry the Lord Jesus assigned me to testify to the gospel of God's grace" (Acts 20:24). For him "...to live is Christ and to die is gain. But if I have to live in this world, it means to me fruit-bearing work" (Philippians 1:21-22a). Throughout his life the apostle Paul continued to work with the strength he received from God. The Lord Jesus said: "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work" (John 4:34) and "I have glorified You on earth by completing the work You gave Me to do" (John 17:4). Let us carry out the ministry we have received in the strength of His might and "let not slack thy zeal, let thy spirit be kindled, and serve the Lord" (Romans 12:11). Amen, God bless!

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