

The Lord of the Harvest

The Lord of the Harvest

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 3:6-7
Colossians 3:1

1 Corinthians 3:6-7 (NKJV) I planted, Apollos watered, but **God gave the increase**. 7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.

Colossians 3:1 (NKJV) If then you were raised with Christ, **seek those things which are above**, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

Introduction

The church in Corinth had lost its objectivity. It had lost sight of the importance of the Lord Jesus Christ and had begun to place its allegiance in men, godly men, but nevertheless, men. Paul has to correct this problem.

I. The ones who plant and water

1 Corinthians 3:6-7 (NKJV) I planted, Apollos watered,

A. God's love slaves

1. The apostle and the evangelist

1 Corinthians 4:9-13 (NKJV) For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men. 10 **We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ! We are weak, but you are strong! You are distinguished, but we are dishonored!** 11 To the present hour we both hunger and thirst, and we are poorly clothed, and beaten, and homeless. 12 And we labor, working with our own hands. Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure; 13 being defamed, we entreat. We have been made as the filth of the world, the offscouring of all things until now.

2 Timothy 4:5 (NKJV) But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, **do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.**

2. The pastor and teacher

2 Timothy 2:2 (NKJV) And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

B. Their role in the work

2 Timothy 4:2 (NKJV) Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

1. Prepares people to receive Jesus
2. The manifestation of the miraculous
3. Gives people the good news
4. Lays a spiritual foundation in their lives
5. Bring the believer to maturity

II. The One who gives growth

1 Corinthians 3:6-7 (NKJV) ... but **God gave the increase**.

Ephesians 5:29 (NKJV) For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, **just as the Lord does the church**.

Acts 18:10 (NKJV) "for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for **I have many people in this city.**"

- A. He is the One who coordinates the work
- B. He is the One who is present through the entire process
- C. He is the One who sends the workers

III. Placing our allegiance where it belongs

Colossians 3:1 (NKJV) If then you were raised with Christ, **seek those things which are above**, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV) looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

A. In the One who will greet you in eternity

Acts 7:56 (NKJV) and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"

B. He is the One who will sustain you

Jude 1:24-25 (NKJV) Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, 25 To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.

C. He is the One who gives the rewards

2 Corinthians 5:10 (NKJV) **For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ**, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Matthew 25:34 (NKJV) "Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: