

Rewards of P.E.A.C.E.!

God empowers us in conflict. Look what Paul declared in 1 Thessalonians 2:2,

"But even after we had suffered before and were spitefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict."

The early church faced opposition but this did not prevent them from being what He asked them to be! Notice it says *"in much conflict."* Brothers and Sisters, the conflict doesn't go away just because you are in the will of God! The conflict is there because you are **in** the will of God! You are doing something right! So rejoice!

"For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?"

1 Thessalonians 2:19

There is no greater reward, there is no greater joy than producing a harvest of souls! God will supply everything that you need to accomplish His will through you! Don't wait for the conflict to be over before you begin. Why not just be the best servant you can be in the midst of the conflict? Why not just go ahead and start serving anyway? Risk the possibility of failure or making a mistake. As we present our lives wholeheartedly to the Lord and allow the Holy Spirit to "assemble" His body the way He wants then the possibilities of heaven begin to operate. We can make a difference together as we are empowered by God. Jesus said:

"... the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve ..."

God is equipping you to serve. This is where God's power works the best! It may stretch you out of your comfort zone but by saying "yes" to Jesus and living your life in Christ rather than in Self sets you apart, making you an agent of P.E.A.C.E. In the Body of Christ we are members one of another. As we join our hearts and lives together to serve, we are serving our Lord and Savior. Whether you pray for someone at the altar, sweep the sidewalk, clean the gutters, teach a class, visit the sick, care for the poor, mix down video, prepare communion, all of these things are extensions of His Ministry! We do not have the right to say one is more important than the other. They all work together for good to put a face upon Jesus that the world can see! Let this Body remember what Christ has done for us, receive His grace and continue together, rejoicing in the midst of every conflict! There is no greater reward than this. Don't be afraid. Jesus is waiting to bless you!

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