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**Weekly Bible Study**

***Branch: Date: 26/07/2022***

**THE REWARD OF DILIGENCE (Part 3)**

**TEXT:** **Genesis 39:1-10**

**MEMORY VERSES: *Galatians 6:7-8 "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."***

Diligence is one of the most important attributes in fulfilling your vision in life. Anointing may fail to fulfil its purpose without it. Diligence will bring great significance to life and add the extraordinary into what indolent fellows will treat as merely unimportant. No one can predict the level attainable by a man/woman armed with the power of diligence! It is the mother of excellence, honour and greatness. It doesn't matter the environment, the system or the prevailing circumstances, the diligent like the Ruth of old, will create possibilities and make fortune out of unfortunate life occurrences. We all need diligence to stand relevant in our lifetime and in history!

**The Priceless Models of Diligence: Genesis 41:13-43.**

We will take a look at the life of Joseph and Deborah in this study. These models at their respective ages and times worked diligently to serve their generations to attain prominence.

I. **JOSEPH**:

*1. He lost his mother at a tender age,* ***yet he was diligent in forming good and winning characters that endeared him to his father, masters and eventually Pharaoh!***

Note: Good character/moral attitude will place you on the ladder of success, and diligence will propel you forward on it!

*2. He always embraced responsibilities and opportunities to serve God and mankind!* ***The diligent application of his gifts made him to be noticed and recommended for higher offer and promotion.***

*3.* ***His diligent learning habit fostered his creativities.*** *He usually had solution to problems: With Potiphar as steward, at prison as a supervisor, and with Pharaoh as the prime minister! He was a think tank and pathfinder.*

*4.* ***Diligence without God is not sensible!*** *Concentration on God with things that really matter and add values to life was Joseph's lifestyle. No time for sin, malice, acrimony, and complaints. He forgave freely to help his brain performance for incredible dreams and innovation.*

**Note:** Don't waste time on things that drain your energy and switch you to a passive, unproductive mode.

*5.* ***His diligent work and attainment brought hope, help and relief*** *to his family (Israel), nation (Egypt) and the world at large! Diligence will make you a great contributor to your generation and position you for great eternal reward in time to come.*

*6.* ***His childhood dream of greatness awoke and stirred him up for action throughout his lifetime.*** *You too can dream, aspire and work to be great in life.*

*7.* ***Diligence will birth unforgettable legacy!*** *Was it a surprise that Joseph remains were kept for over four hundred years by the Israelites? Your diligent meritorious works and services will keep you alive in minds, even after you have gone to glory.*

II. **DEBORAH**: Judges 4:1-24.

1. ***Women are not created with lesser capacity than men.*** In fact, *to be a helper to others could sometimes mean that you have greater resources at your disposal!* Deborah knew this fact, as she diligently applied herself jointly with Barrack, to bring liberation from oppression, and thus became a mother in Israel.

2. ***Deborah displayed what is today called multi-tasking approach to life.*** She was a wife, a mother, a prophetess, a judge, and a soldier!Definitely, no lazy individual could fill up such gap. A diligent woman will discern her line of interest: where she can channel her strength, talents and energy to the benefit of everyone as she ceases opportunities to give her best.

Christian women should not sit down to play second fiddle. In academics, career, Church Ministry and home building, God has placed great investment in women! It is your task to explore to see that you excel outstandingly.

3. ***The life of Deborah taught good lessons of self- motivation that can open doors for greater feat of exploits in life.*** Don't just sit down to lament your woes! Rise up, think, do something no matter how small. Little progress in the right direction is better than stagnancy.

4. ***Diligence attracts possibilities!*** The type of helper like Jael was not in sight at the beginning of the fight. Providence set her along the path of Sisera, the prime enemy and mountain to surmount. She conquered the warlord with milk and nail. Imagine that!

Note: ***"Deep calleth unto deep".*** Your depth of success, blessings, wealth and influences for Christ is a function of your diligence in whatever God has called you to do.

Paul's word is ever reassuring to every child of God in Philippians 4:13 KJV, which says: ***"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."***

5. ***The diligent shall have Dominion, to rule and to reign in life.***

Lifetime endows everyone with precious seed and talent for investment, these must not be buried! Do not retire to be tied up by whatever circumstances. Rather, re-fire! Brace up and be set ablaze by assiduously working to become a blazing warmth of encouragement to break the iceberg of poverty, depression and oppression that loom in the society today.

God by default through grace in Christ has customized you to be a winner.

6. ***Joy of fulfilment, honour and dignity with unquantifiable rewards are the lots of the diligent.***  In Judges Chapter 5, the account of Deborah's song was given. Every one that sows with diligence, though with pain, shall sing with joy in the end.

7. ***Expend your energy and resources for the Lord***.

At the end, Christ's cause will matter above other engagements. Be wise to be diligent at God' service.

The Lord in John 6:27 KJV advises:

***"Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for th.at meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed."***

May God fill you with all wisdom to apply this teaching profitably. Amen.

**HYMN: ONLY REMEMBERED**