

~INDUSTRIOUSNESS (218)

.. Rewards Of Industriousness

- Steady and persevering activity, painstaking effort, diligence, zeal. Commonly the term implies lawful and useful labor. It is the opposite of slothfulness or idleness.
- The **Hebrew** and **Greek** words in the Bible that are sometimes translated industrious or industriousness are more often rendered earnest or earnestness, and other forms of such words are frequently translated endeavor or do ones utmost.
- Christians are admonished not to slack their hands or become weary in well doing. Paul said;
- But we desire each one of you to show the same **industriousness** so as to have the full assurance of the hope down to the end. (**Hebrews 6:11**)
- In order, that you may not become sluggish, but be imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises. (**Hebrews 6:12**)
- The one working with a slack hand will be of little means, but the hand of the **diligent** one is what will make one rich. (**Proverbs 10:4**)
- The hand of the **diligent** ones is the one that will rule, but the slack hand will come to be for forced labor. (**Proverbs 12:24**)
- Also, the one showing himself slack in his work, he is a brother to the one causing ruin. (**Proverbs 18:9**)
- Jesus Christ told his disciples:
- Exert yourselves **vigorously** to get in through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will seek to get in but will not be able. (**Luke 13:24**)
- Paul himself was an example of such **rigorous exertion**.
- To this end I am indeed **working hard, exerting** myself in

- accordance with the operation of him and which is at work in me with power. (**Colossians 1:29**)
- For you yourselves know the way you ought to imitate us, because we did not behave disorderly among you (**2 Thessalonians 3:7**)
 - Nor did we eat food from anyone free. To the contrary, by **labor and toil night and day** we were working so as not to impose an expensive burden upon any one of you. (**2 Thessalonians 3:8**)
 - Not that we do not have authority, but in order, that we might offer ourselves as an example to you to imitate us. (**2 Thessalonians 3:9**)
 - Yehowah and his Son are, of course, the foremost examples of **industriousness**.
 - But he answered them; My Father has kept working until now, and I keep working. (**John 5:17**)
 - Raise your eyes high up and see. Who has created these things? It is the One who is bringing forth the army of them even by number, all of whom he calls even by name. Due to the abundance of dynamic energy, he also being vigorous in power, not one of them is missing. (**Isaiah 40:26**)
 - To prevent their being inactive or unfruitful, Christians must contribute in response to God's promises **all earnest effort** in supplying to their faith virtue, knowledge, self-control, endurance, godly devotion, brotherly affection, and love.
 - Through these things he has freely given us the precious and very grand promises, that through these you may become sharers in divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world through lust. (**2 Peter 1:4**)
 - Yes, for this very reason, by your contributing in response **all earnest effort**, supply to your faith virtue, to your virtue knowledge. (**2 Peter 1:5**)
 - To your knowledge self-control, to your self-control endurance, to your **endurance** godly devotion. (**2 Peter 1:6**)

- To your godly devotion brotherly affection, to your brotherly affection love. (2 Peter 1:7)
- For if these things exist in you and overflow, they will prevent you from being either inactive or unfruitful regarding the accurate knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 1:8)
- This calls for the constant application of **industrious** perseverance.
- Do your utmost to present yourself approved to God, a workman with nothing to be ashamed of, handling the word of the truth aright. (2 Timothy 2:15)
- Let us therefore do our utmost to enter into that rest, for fear anyone should fall in the same pattern of disobedience. (Hebrews 4:11)
- Unflagging attention.
- That is why it is necessary for us to pay more than the usual attention to the things heard by us, that we may never drift away. (Hebrews 2:1)
- Much of the strength for this comes through the help of Yehowah's spirit. What could more strongly express the need for **industriousness** than the apostle Paul's counsel,
- Do not loiter at your business. Be aglow with the spirit. Slave for Yehowah. (Romans 12:11)
- This requirement of **industriousness** applies to all ministers, let us be at this ministry, but with special force to those in positions in which they preside over meetings and activities in the congregation, for he that presides, let him do it in real earnest.
- Or a ministry, **let us be at this ministry**. He that teaches, let him be at his teaching. (Romans 12:7)
- Or he that exhorts, let him be at his exhortation. He that distributes, let him do it with liberality. He that presides, let him do it in **real earnest**. He that shows mercy, let him do it with cheerfulness. (Romans 12:8)

- **In the Christian congregation, needy ones receiving material help from the congregation must be industrious ones. The Scriptural rule is:**
- **In fact, also, when we were with you, we used to give you this order; If anyone does not want to work, neither let him eat. (2 Thessalonians 3:10)**
- **For we hear certain ones are walking disorderly among you, not working at all but meddling with what does not concern them. (2 Thessalonians 3:11)**
- **To such persons we give the order and exhortation in the Lord Jesus Christ that by working with quietness they should eat food they themselves earn. (2 Thessalonians 3:12)**
- **A professed Christian who refuses or neglects to provide for his household, has disowned the faith and is worse than a person without faith.**
- **Certainly if anyone does not provide for those who are his own, and especially for those who are members of his household, he has disowned the faith and is worse than a person without faith. (1 Timothy 5:8)**
- **Even widows who were needy, before being put on the congregations list for regular provision of material assistance, had to have a record of Christian activity, having, diligently followed every good work.**
- **Let a widow be put on the list who has become not less than sixty years old, a wife of one husband. (1 Timothy 5:9)**
- **Having a witness borne to her for fine works, if she reared children, if she entertained strangers, if she washed the feet of holy ones, if she relieved those in tribulation, if she diligently followed every good work. (1 Timothy 5:10)**

·· **Rewards Of Industriousness**

- **Rich rewards come to the **industrious** person both now and in the future. The hand of the diligent one is what will make one rich.**
- **The one working with a slack hand will be of little means, but the hand of the diligent one is what will make one rich. (Proverbs**

10:4)

- **The hand of the diligent ones is the one that will rule.**
- **The hand of the diligent ones is the one that will rule, but the slack hand will come to be for forced labor. (**Proverbs 12:24**)**
- **Their soul, will be made fat.**
- **The lazy one is showing himself desirous, but his soul has nothing. However, the very soul of the diligent ones will be made fat. (**Proverbs 13:4**)**
- **The **industrious** wife is one whose sons have risen up and proceeded to pronounce her happy, her owner rises up, and he praises her. Of her, it is proclaimed;**
- **Her sons have risen up and proceeded to pronounce her happy, her owner rises up, and he praises her. (**Proverbs 31:28**)**
- **Give her of the fruitage of her hands, and let her works praise her even in the gates. (**Proverbs 31:31**)**
- **Above all, the spiritual brothers of Christ are told;**
- **For this reason, brothers, all the more do your utmost to make the calling and choosing of you sure for yourselves, for if you keep on doing these things you will by no means ever fail. (**2 Peter 1:10**)**
- **In fact, thus there will be richly supplied to you the entrance into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (**2 Peter 1:11**)**