

2 Thessalonians 3:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing.

Analysis

But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing—But ye addresses the obedient majority, contrasted with the idle minority. **Be not weary** (mē enkakēsēte, μὴ ἐνκακήσητε, don't lose heart, don't give up) **in well doing** (kalopoiountes, καλοποιοῦντες, doing good/noble things). Sustained obedience risks fatigue, especially when others slack off.

Paul encourages perseverance in productive labor and generous support of the truly needy. Don't let the idle minority's bad example discourage faithful work. Don't stop helping legitimate needs because some abuse charity. Righteous fatigue tempts quitting; grace supplies endurance to finish well.

Historical Context

Carrying idle members financially exhausted working believers. Paul prevents bitterness toward all needy by distinguishing unwilling workers from unable. Continued generosity toward legitimate needs despite abuse models Christlike persistence in doing good to all.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. What good work are you tempted to quit because others aren't pulling their weight?
2. How do you maintain generous compassion without enabling destructive behavior?
3. What sustains you in 'well doing' when you see no immediate results or appreciation?

Interlinear Text

Ὑμεῖς δέ ἀδελφοί μὴ ἐκκακήσητε καλοποιοῦντες

ye

G5210

But

G1161

brethren

G80

not

G3361

be

G1573

in well doing

G2569

Additional Cross-References

Hebrews 12:3 (Parallel theme): For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

2 Corinthians 4:1 (Parallel theme): Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not;

2 Corinthians 4:16 (Parallel theme): For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

Luke 18:1 (Parallel theme): And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

Revelation 2:3 (Parallel theme): And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.

Hebrews 12:5 (Parallel theme): And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:

Psalms 27:13 (Parallel theme): I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

1 Thessalonians 4:1 (Parallel theme): Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.

Zephaniah 3:16 (Parallel theme): In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, Fear thou not: and to Zion, Let not thine hands be slack.

Romans 2:7 (Parallel theme): To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:

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