Three Qualities Needed to Do the Lord’s Work
1 Cor. 15:58

Introduction:
A. This text is the conclusion of Paul’s discourse on the resurrection.
   1. Some were denying the resurrection (v. 12)
   2. Paul’s proof of the resurrection.
      a. Scriptures (vv. 3-4)
      b. Testimony of witnesses (vv. 5-8).
   3. Without the resurrection Christianity is an exercise in futility.
      a. Our preaching is vain (vv. 14-15)
      b. Our faith is vain (v. 17)
      c. Our labor is vain (v. 58).
B. This text gives three qualities need to do the Lord’s work.

Discussion:
I. Steadfastness
A. Three ideas associated with steadfastness.
   1. Dependability (cf. Heb. 2:2)
B. Steadfastness is desirable in many things.
   1. In all kinds of machinery.
   2. In all kinds of partnerships.
   3. In all kinds of organizations.
   4. In all phases of the Lord’s work.
C. Steadfastness is undermined by many things.
   1. Laziness (Matt. 25:26; Rom. 12:11)
   2. Distractions (Mark 4:19; Luke 14:16-20)

II. Immovableness
A. Unmoved:
   1. By persecution and threats. (Acts 20:24)
   2. By every wind of doctrine (Eph. 4:14)
   3. From the hope of the gospel (Col. 1:13)
B. Unmoveable only if we are:
   1. Anchored to Christ (Heb. 6:19-20)
   2. Built up rock of His word (Matt. 7:24-27)

III. Bountifulness
A. Our service to God is to be bountiful rather than meager or sparingly.
   1. “Always abounding..” (1 Cor. 15:58).
   2. “If these things be in you and abound.. (2 Pet. 1:8).
   3. Abundant entrance to heaven for those who abound (2 Pet. 1:11)
   4. Abundant sowing reaps abundant harvest. (2 Cor. 9:6)
B. The difference in sowing sparingly and abundantly is a matter of attitudes.
   1. “I have to do” versus “I want to I do.”
   2. “What do I have to do to get by” versus “What can I do to further His Cause”
   3. From “If you can show it necessary, I will do” versus “Show me that it is beneficial, I will do”
C. Does any ever regret a life of abundant service to the Lord?

Conclusion:
A. Let us work so that our labor will not be in vain.
B. Our labor is not in vain “in the Lord” because of the resurrection.