

## I. Opening Scriptures

A. **Malachi 3:13-18 (NKJV)** – <sup>13</sup>“Your words have been harsh against Me,” says the Lord, “Yet you say, ‘What have we spoken against You?’ <sup>14</sup>**You have said, ‘It is useless to serve God; What profit is it that we have kept His ordinance, and that we have walked as mourners before the Lord of hosts?’** <sup>15</sup>So now we call the proud blessed, for those who do wickedness are raised up; they even tempt God and go free.” <sup>16</sup>Then those who feared the Lord spoke to one another, and the Lord listened and heard them; so a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear the Lord and who meditate on His name. <sup>17</sup>“They shall be Mine,” says the Lord of hosts, “On the day that I make them My jewels. And I will spare them as a man spares his own son who serves him.” <sup>18</sup>Then you shall again discern between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him.

**Malachi 3:14 (APE)** – You have said, “We have served LORD JEHOVAH for nothing, and what has it profited us that we keep his observances, and that we walk humbly before LORD JEHOVAH of Hosts

**Malachi 3:14 (CEV)** – Here is what you have said: “It’s foolish to serve the LORD God All-Powerful. What do we get for obeying God and from going around looking sad?”

**Malachi 3:14 (GNT)** – You have said, ‘It’s useless to serve God. What’s the use of doing what he says or of trying to show the LORD Almighty that we are sorry for what we have done?’

**NOTE: Another way this may be said – “It doesn’t work to serve God.”**  
**“This isn’t working.”**

- If the Word says it works – it is working!
- I must have faith – to believe that everything the Word says works – works for me!
- To say it isn’t working for me – means you are getting exactly what you are saying.

**B. 1 Corinthians 15:57-58 (NKJV)** – *<sup>57</sup>But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>58</sup>Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.*

**1 Corinthians 15:58b (NLT)** – *knowing that nothing you do for the Lord is useless.*

**1 Corinthians 15:58b (GNT)** – *You know that nothing you do in the Lord's service is useless.*

**1 Corinthians 15:58b (ISV)** – *The work you do for the Lord isn't wasted.*

**Note: Whatever we do as commanded of the Lord is WORKING even when you cannot see or feel the results.**

- Prayer is working.
- Confession of the word is working.
- Giving is working.
- Tithing is working.
- Sowing is working.
- Obedience to the Lord is working.
- Being faithful to Him is working.
- Healing is working/Laying on of hands is working/my faith is working.

*It is so important that you establish your faith to believe that every spiritual practice is WORKING and PRODUCING results in your life regardless of how things appear.*

*Faith isn't about what we see or feel. Continuing to ACT by faith is how we see lasting breakthrough and results.*

**CONFESSION** – *“This is Working!” This is working for me!*

**Charles Capps** – *No matter what the circumstances, what I feel or see the Word is working mightily in me.*

## II. Established in spiritual disciplines.

*To be established means – we believe that our spiritual practices are working – we are confident that they are producing results.*

### A. The Necessity of confidence

1. **Hebrews 10:35-36 (NKJV)** – <sup>35</sup>*Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward.* <sup>36</sup>*For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:*

**Hebrews 10:35-36 (NLT)** – <sup>35</sup>*So do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord. Remember the **great reward** it brings you!* <sup>36</sup>*Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God's will. **Then** you will receive all that he has promised.*

2. Confidence in prayer.

**1 John 5:14-15 (NKJV)** – <sup>14</sup>*Now this is **the confidence** that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.* <sup>15</sup>*And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.*

*Prayer is working!*

**1 John 5:14-15 (AMP)** – <sup>14</sup>*This is the [remarkable degree of] confidence which we [as believers are entitled to] have before Him: that if we ask anything according to His will, [that is, consistent with His plan and purpose] He hears us.* <sup>15</sup>*And if we know [for a fact, as indeed we do] that He hears and listens to us in whatever we ask, we [also] know [with settled and absolute knowledge] that we have [granted to us] the requests which we have asked from Him.*

3. **Mark 11:23-24 (NKJV)** – <sup>23</sup>*For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.* <sup>24</sup>*Therefore I say to you, whatever*

*things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them*

*Jesus said – When you speak to the mountain, it will move – IF you believe your words are working.*

*He also said your PRAYER will work – when you believe that you receive the things you are requesting – YOU MUST BELIEVE YOUR PRAYER IS WORKING!*

## B. Prayer

1. **James 5:16 (NKJV)** – Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. **The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.**

**James 5:16b (NIV)** – The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

**James 5:16b (NLT)** – The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.

**James 5:16b (GWT)** – Prayers offered by those who have God’s approval are effective.

**James 5:17-18 (NKJV)** – <sup>17</sup>Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. <sup>18</sup>And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

**1 Kings 18:41-46 (NKJV)** – <sup>41</sup>Then Elijah said to Ahab, “Go up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of abundance of rain.” **(He must have heard this in his spirit, there was no rain yet)** <sup>42</sup>So Ahab went up to eat and drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; then he bowed down on the ground, and put his face between his knees, <sup>43</sup>and said to his servant, “Go up now, look toward the sea.” So he went up and looked, and said, “There is nothing.” And seven times he

said, "Go again." <sup>44</sup>Then it came to pass the seventh time, that he said, "There is a cloud, as small as a man's hand, rising out of the sea!" So he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare your chariot, and go down before the rain stops you.'" <sup>45</sup>Now it happened in the meantime that the sky became black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy rain. So Ahab rode away and went to Jezreel. <sup>46</sup>Then the hand of the Lord came upon Elijah; and he girded up his loins and ran ahead of Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

**Note: Notice, it doesn't say that Elijah kept praying – it says he kept saying – go back and look again.**

*Elijah BELIEVED that His prayer was working – He believed – when He prayed things were working.*

***Just because you don't see instant results, doesn't mean things are not working. KEEP LOOKING/KEEP EXPECTING***

## 2. Delay doesn't mean it isn't working.

**Daniel 10:2-3 (NKJV)** – <sup>2</sup>In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks. <sup>3</sup>I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.

**Daniel 10:10-14 (NKJV)** – <sup>10</sup>Suddenly, a hand touched me, which made me tremble on my knees and on the palms of my hands. <sup>11</sup>And he said to me, "O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you." While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling. <sup>12</sup>Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, **for from the first day** that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, **your words were heard; and I have come because of your words.** <sup>13</sup>But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia. <sup>14</sup>**Now I have come** to make you understand what will happen to your

*people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come.”*

*What if Daniel had cast away his confidence saying I guesst this prayer and fasting stuff doesn't work...It might be working for others, but it isn't working for me...Three weeks is enough – pass me the bread...It was working – It is working...*

### **C. Maintain your confidence at all times!**

1. **Ephesians 3:10 (NIV)** – *In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.*
2. **Never say, “This isn’t working.”**
3. **Keep a strong confession: “This is working!”**
  - a. Because hands were laid on me, healing is working in me.
  - b. When I pray – my prayers are working for me.
  - c. I give and tithe – the tithe blessing is working for me.
  - d. I sow generously – my seed is working, and harvest is coming to me.
  - e. I obey the lord quickly – I reap the reward of obedience.
  - f. Whatever I do as a response of faith unto the Lord – IS WORKING FOR ME.