

Messenger of Truth

"Holding forth the Word of Life" (Phil. 2:16)

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Determination

"Determination is doing what needs to be done even when you don't feel like doing it." – unknown

"It is your determination and persistence that will make you a successful person." – Kenneth Hutchins

"Never let a stumble in the road be the end of the journey." – unknown

"If you have discipline, drive and determination...nothing is impossible." – Dana Bailey

"The difference between the impossible and the possible lies in a person's determination." – Tommy Lasorda

Merriam-Webster defines determination as, "the act of deciding definitely and firmly." The online dictionary says, "firmness of purpose; resoluteness." For example, Paul wrote the church at Corinth and stated, "For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified (1 Cor. 2:2).

Perhaps the greatest example of determination came from our Lord and Savior. "Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Him to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem" (Luke 9:51). Notice it says He "steadfastly set His face". That phrase, "steadfastly set," is from a Greek word that means to turn resolutely in a certain direction. It is a strong declaration of our Lord's determination to complete His Father's will. Jesus knew what it meant if He were to go to Jerusalem, but He was determined to complete His mission.

The church today has far too many that vacillate, knowing what needs to be done, but they lack the resolve and fortitude to do it. A good example is the Great Commission. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you..." (Matt. 28:19-20). Even though that charge was given in the first century, as followers of our Lord, we seek to obey His command today.

If the Lord faced Jerusalem with the lack of resolve we see today in the church, it is scary to realize He likely would not have faced the cross. And without His sacrifice upon that cross, we would be lost!

In truth, we often lack the determination, the grit, the fortitude to do His will. My hope and prayer is that you will find within yourself the fight and determination to do what must be done.

It is scary to contemplate the vast number of souls who will never see Heaven. And what a shame it is, if in our weakness and lack of determination, they never hear the truth from us.