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Be Ye Steadfast

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9-19-50
1-26-66

BE YE STEDFAST

I Cor. 15:58

74

INT:

A confident and remarkably wonderful statement in view of the condition of the Corinthian church of Christ! Text suggests a REWARD still available for such as these. Heaven's confidence in weak humanity to SETTLE DOWN and even ABOUND in the work of the Lord. Paul and our Lord are amazing idealists and optimists.

I. DISGRACEFUL PROBLEMS AT CORINTH.

- A. A four-way popularity contest and division. 1:10-17.
- B. A boastful toleration of rank immorality... 5:1-9.
- C. Law suits among brethren. 6:1-8.
- D. Desecration of the Lord's Supper. ^{meal incidental.} 11:20-30.

CONCLUSION: Suggests gross spiritual ignorance, immaturity, carnality, worldliness and human weaknesses.

QUESTION: What could the Lord possibly do with such????

II. SAME THINGS HE CAN DO WITH SPIRITUAL SOLUTIONS.

- A. **BE YE STEDFAST:** Settled. Moral fixity. Firmly seated.
 1. Steady in Study. II Tim. 2:15. All classes? H. 10:24-
 2. Steady in Supplications. I Thess. 5:17. I Tim. 2:1-2
 3. Steady in Soul-winning. Acts 2:42 and 46-47.

Can you imagine the Corinthians doing this? God could

- B. **BE UNMOVABLE:** Firm. Firmly fixed. Stationary. Imbedded.
 1. Unmoved by the world's allures. I John 2:15-17.
 2. Unmoved by deceitfulness of riches. I Tim. 6:6-12.*
 3. Unmoved by worldly wisdom today. I Cor. 1:18-24.*

- C. **ALWAYS ABOUNDING:** in the work of the Lord.
 1. Teacher shortages don't occur in abounding cong. 5:12.
 2. Preacher shortages don't occur in abounding brotherho
II Tim. 2:1-3

3. Congregations not short on Cottage Meeting holders and personal workers if an abounding congregation.

INV: World is short on happy and contented people. WHY?
World is short on sted., unmov. and abound. Christians!
The parallel is clear! World not going God's way.

YOU want happiness? Then go God's way. Sted., Unm., Abound
B-R-C-B *acts 2:38*

YOU lost happiness? Then come back to God's Way. *I JOHN 1:9.*

Identify.

ll.
Least can do!
Knt # P. 738
ll.
Knt # P. 655

✓ KNT. # P. 197. Boy. House. Run fast? Steady?
1,000 yrs later (KNT. # P. 197) Pompeii. Vesuvius. Shards
ll. Martin Niemöller. 6 yrs. Concor. camp. Reporters. Only gospel.
He. Need more "button" holders. Arthur Hays Sulzberger.