

LABORING FOR THE WIND?

by Tony Alamo

“There is a sore evil which I have seen under the sun, namely, riches kept for the owners thereof to their hurt. But those riches perish by evil travail: and he begetteth a son, and there is nothing in his hand. As he came forth of his mother’s womb, naked shall he return to go as he came, and shall take nothing of his labour, which he may carry away in his hand. And this also is a sore evil, that in all points as he came, so shall he go: and what profit hath he that hath laboured for the wind?” (Ecclesiastes 5:13-16). Only what we do for Christ will be of any eternal value.

I decided many years ago not to labor for the things of this world, since I couldn’t take them with me when I died.¹ “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in Heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and

where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also [if your treasure is upon earth, your heart will be in the dirt, then Hell]” (Matthew 6:19-21).

Is what God, Jesus, their prophets and their apostles tell you, in the Word of God, wisdom? Or do you think the way you live and think is wise? Since we have to face God—and soon—I’m sure it is better to live according to the wisdom of God.² When we don’t, we labor for the wind.

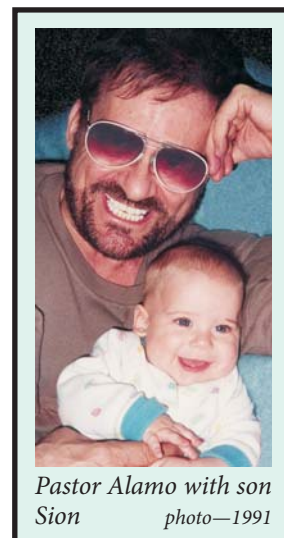
You may ask how I find out what to do. What is wisdom? And how do you understand what God likes, so that you might please Him?³ Proverbs 1:2-5 says, “To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity; [How do we correctly judge the right thing for us to do, and instruct others to do the same?] To give

subtily to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion. A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels.”

Haggai 1:6 says, “Ye have sown much [worked hard], and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.”

According to *Webster’s Dictionary*, the word “vanity” means: “(1) Emptiness; want of substance to satisfy desire; uncertainty; inanity. (2) Fruitless desire or endeavor; emptiness. Vanity possesses many people who are desirous to know the certainty of things to come. (3) Trifling labor that produces no good. (4) Emptiness; untrue

(Continued on page 2)



Pastor Alamo with son Sion photo—1991

¹ Job 1:21, 21:7-13, Psa. 49:10, Luke 12:16-21 ² Psa. 1:4-6, 96:13, Eccl. 3:17, 11:9, 12:14, Dan. 7:9-10, Matt. 7:22-23, 25:31-46, 2 Cor. 5:10, Heb. 9:27, Rev. 20:11-15 ³ Psa. 15:1-5, 111:10, Prov. 1:7, 4:7-27, 8:1-21, 32-36, 9:10-11, 15:33, Eccl. 7:12, 19

LABORING FOR THE WIND?

(Continued from page 1)

(5) Empty pleasure; empty pursuit; idle show; unsubstantial enjoyment." Sin with emptiness has filled the works of men. Vanity (emptiness) is the food of fools.

"Vanity of vanities; all is vanity. [All the work of mankind is as emptiness except what is done for God.] What profit hath a man of all his labour which he taketh under the sun?" (Ecclesiastes 1:2-3). In Ecclesiastes 1:14, King Solomon says, "I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold [look], all [everything, except what is done for the Lord] is van-

ity [emptiness] and vexation of spirit." "I communed with mine own heart, saying, Lo, I am come to great estate, and have gotten more wisdom than all they that have been before me in Jerusalem: yea, my heart had great experience of wisdom and knowledge. And I gave my heart to know wisdom, and to know madness and folly: I perceived that this also is vexation of spirit" (Ecclesiastes 1:16-17). "I said in mine heart, Go to now, I will prove thee with mirth, therefore enjoy pleasure: and, behold, this also is vanity. I said of laughter, It is mad: and of mirth, What doeth it?" (Ecclesiastes 2:1-2). "Yea, I hated all my labour which I had taken under the sun: because I should leave it unto the man that shall be after me. And who knoweth whether he shall be

a wise man or a fool? yet shall he have rule over all my labour wherein I have laboured, and wherein I have showed myself wise under the sun. This is also vanity" (Ecclesiastes 2:18-19).

"The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies, which are given from one shepherd. And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh. Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil" (Ecclesiastes 12:11-14).

(Continued on page 4)

Letters to Pastor Alamo

Peru

(Translated from Spanish)

Dear Pastor Alamo,

May God greatly bless you.

I read your letter and as of today I am purposed to fast and pray for you and for your family. The Bible says, I can do all things in Christ who strengthens us and I know that you being in prison, the Lord will never, ever abandon you, friend. He is very faithful and is not a debtor to anyone.

Servant of the Most High God, you did the work that nobody dared to do, in evangelizing the world with the Gospel and I am a witness of that. God will never leave you. You will get out of prison very soon to continue with the vision, for the Lord gave it to you.

I will be praying for the angel of

the Lord to keep you, and to keep you safe in that place that you are in; that no one does you any harm nor hurts you, since you are very special to the Lord.

Friend, do not get discouraged, the devil will not win the war; he is defeated. Jesus defeated him and he never won anything nor will he ever win anything.

As of today I will be praying and fasting for you and my soul will not rest until I see the victory in your life and that you continue preaching the Gospel because for this were you called.

Though the devil wants to destroy the children, he will not be able. He

wanted to do so in Moses' time, killing them. Herod wanted to kill Jesus when He was a child. He couldn't and he will not be able to do so with the children of your church. They are the new generation.

Friend, don't get discouraged. Strengthen yourself from your weaknesses. I know what you are going through is very difficult, but you are not alone. You have a friend in Peru and 200 children who will be at your side giving you strength, perhaps not in body, but in spirit.

Forward my friend. Do not faint.

God bless you,

One more friend,

Juan Carrasco

Tacna, Peru

Uganda

Praise be to God,

It's me, Pastor Christopher Kyobe from Uganda. I thank God for the love and the materials you sent to me. I got them, and I distributed them to people freely, which

has helped change people here. I would like to thank God for that.

We love you so much, and we always pray for Pastor Alamo for God to help him

and free him, because he has been doing God's work. God bless so much.

Shalom,

Pastor Christopher Kyobe Uganda, Africa

India

Dear beloved brother,

Thank you for your reply and thank you for strengthening us with your words. When I am sharing your messages to other pastors and believers they are strengthening. We will continue this relationship in future also. God will do miracles through you in India. Please come and see our work and strengthen us. Here orphans, widows, pastors, believers and my family are waiting for your arrival and praying for your family and ministry. Thank you for sending us Bibles and literature. We felt very happy for it. Here I am sending some of the photos in our church. Thanking you.

Your brother in Christ,
Rev. J.D. Prasada Rao
Andhra Pradesh, India



In this photo, Reverend Prasada Rao and his wife have just received assorted Gospel literature from the Tony Alamo Christian Ministries, for distribution in Andhra Pradesh, India.

Dear beloved brother in Christ,

Loving and wonderful greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. How are you and your family doing? How is your ministry? I hope our Almighty Father is blessing your family and ministry a billion fold.

The happiness of me and my family members has no limits after receiving your wonderful and devotional literature. I would like to give you my heartfelt thanks for your literature and *Messiah* books. God has blessed us in many ways to do His service. I appreciate your spiritual knowledge, and when I am reading the literature, I feel so surprised that God has blessed you with this much spiritual knowledge! I am feeling so

happy that your literature is winning so many souls in this world. I appreciate your wonderful “Dry Bones” message also. By it, I and my family members got so much comfort. Also, some Hindu people’s lives have been saved from their sins.

Brother, we are busy distributing and explaining your literature among Hindus and illiterates near bus stations and train stations. In Luke 19:10 Jesus said, “For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that

which was lost.” I am doing evangelism among unbelievers of Christ, and I would like some *Messiah* books to distribute to them, also your “Dry Bones” literature; our spirits are becoming more and more strengthened.

Our family members are appreciating you, and are also conveying regards to you and your family.

Your beloved brother,
Kommara Bhushanam
Devarapalli Mandal, India

Ghana

Dear Tony Alamo Ministries,

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I thank you for your anointed ministry, which reaches many countries in the world. I was an idolater before, but now I thank God that when I read your book entitled, *The Messiah*, I repented and accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. I now realize that I was in the dark, doing what was wrong in the sight of God, but I thank God that when I read your book, God Himself brought me into the light.

I am now a born-again Christian, but I have no Bible to read in order to know more about the Words of God. Pastor, I would like it if you could please send two Bibles to me, video tapes, audio tapes. Thanks in advance that you will not fail my request.

Yours faithfully,
Solomon Bobie

Kwadaso-Kumasi, Ghana, Africa



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LABORING FOR THE WIND?

(Continued from page 2)

The smartest man in the world the same as said that anything you do, except for serving the Lord, is working for emptiness—laboring for the wind.⁴

Let's lay away treasure in Heaven for eternity because laboring for what is here is "laboring for the wind."⁵ Say this prayer to be saved, to enter Heaven. Then serve the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength:

My Lord and my God, have mercy upon my soul, a sinner.⁶ I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of the living God.⁷ I believe that He died on the cross and shed His precious blood for the forgiveness of all my former sins.⁸ I believe that God raised Jesus from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit,⁹ and that He sits on the right hand of God at this moment,

hearing my confession of sin and this prayer.¹⁰ I open up the door of my heart, and I invite You into my heart, Lord Jesus.¹¹ Wash all of my filthy sins away in the precious blood that You shed in my place on the cross at Calvary.¹² You will not turn me away, Lord Jesus; You will forgive my sins and save my soul. I know because Your Word, the Bible, says so.¹³ Your Word says that You will turn no one away, and that includes me.¹⁴ Therefore, I know that You have heard me, and I know that You have answered me, and I know that I am saved.¹⁵ And I thank You, Lord Jesus, for saving my soul, and I will show my thankfulness by doing as You command and sin no more.¹⁶

You've just completed the first step in a series of five steps which are necessary to receive salvation. Your second step is to deny yourself and take up your cross daily and follow Jesus for the

purpose of mortifying your flesh, that is, for putting to death your own will, your soulful self, and the world with all of its lusts. All these must be baptized into the watery death of Christ.

Step three is your resurrection from the satanic life of Adam unto the sinless life of Christ. Step four is your ascension into a position of authority to reign for God with Christ on earth, and the fifth step is to reign for God in Christ on earth to the end for the purpose of bringing about the kingdom of Heaven on earth. You must learn the Word of God, submit yourselves one to another, and do what the Word says so that the church and the world may see evidence of your submission to God's Word, His order, and His authority in and by you.

Praise the Lord. May God bless and reward you abundantly.

Yours in the wonderful name of Jesus,
Pastor Tony Alamo

Tony Alamo is probably the greatest patriot this country has ever known.

4 Eccl. 5:16 **5** Matt. 6:19-21, 19:21, Mark 10:21, Luke 12:33-37 **6** Psa. 51:5, Rom. 3:10-12, 23 **7** Matt. 26:63-64, 27:54, Luke 1:30-33, John 9:35-37, Rom. 1:3-4 **8** Acts 4:12, 20:28, Rom. 3:25, 1 John 1:7, Rev. 5:9 **9** Psa. 16:9-10, Matt. 28:5-7, Mark 16:9, 12, 14, John 2:19, 21, 10:17-18, 11:25, Acts 2:24, 3:15, Rom. 8:11, 1 Cor. 15:3-7 **10** Luke 22:69, Acts 2:25-36, Heb. 10:12-13 **11** 1 Cor. 3:16, Rev. 3:20 **12** Eph. 2:13-22, Heb. 9:22, 13:12, 20-21, 1 John 1:7, Rev. 1:5, 7:14 **13** Matt. 26:28, Acts 2:21, 4:12, Eph. 1:7, Col. 1:14 **14** Matt. 21:22, John 6:35, 37-40, Rom. 10:13 **15** Heb. 11:6 **16** John 5:14, 8:11, Rom. 6:4, 1 Cor. 15:10, Rev. 7:14, 22:14

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