

*“And it shall come to pass, **If Ye Shall Hearken Diligently** unto My Commandments which I Command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul, That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil. And I will send grass in thy fields for thy cattle, that thou mayest eat and be full.” **Deuteronomy 11:13-15 KJV***



A master craftsman is someone who learned well from another master craftsman and can pass that on to another. He does well, because he learned well. His work is admired and coveted by many and he is paid handsomely for it. But it doesn't just come to him easy-peasy; there were many hours of work, hardship, and diligence required to achieve it. The same is true for the believer. The rewards of God's Provision only come to those who diligently obey God's Word. It all goes back to the Law of Reaping and Sowing. *“Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?”* God simply lets us reap the consequences of our sin and withholds the provision we would have received had we obeyed. Granted, He is watching over us, but like a parent with a rebellious toddler, He lets us have our own way knowing we will fall and get hurt. Unless we learn from our fall, we will fall yet again, and again, and again. If we serve the desires of our flesh we will quite literally die, because our flesh *“is carnal, sold under sin.”* If you know a path is perilous, why walk it if there is a safer way? *“In ALL thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths.”* We acknowledge God by keeping His Word in our thoughts through diligent study and meditation. *“STUDY to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth.”* Notice it requires a workman.

Diligence is what is required,
If God's Favor is my desire,
If I would burn with Holy Fire,
The Love of God must be my hire. –CGP

Quite simply, diligence is the attitude of repentance. Repentance is not a place to which we come, but a Path on which we walk. Repentance is the return to obedience of God's Word as soon as the Spirit makes you aware through the Word hidden in your heart of sin which you have or are committing. Simply turn back to Father in as many moments of the day as you must until holding His Hand is a desire of your heart to be next to Him and not just a way to avoid the hurt of sin!

“(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your Heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye FIRST the Kingdom of God, and His Righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.” Matthew 6:32-34 KJV