

KEEP ABOUT YOUR WORK

The Lord has given to every man his work. It is his business to do it and the devil's business to hinder him if he can. As surely as God has given you a work to do, Satan will try to hinder you. He may present other things more promising; he may allure you by worldly prospects; he may assault you with slander; torment you with false accusations; set you to work defending your character; employ pious persons to lie about you, editors to assail you, and excellent men to slander you. You may have Pilate and Herod, Ananias and Caiphas, all combined against you, and Judas standing by to sell you for thirty pieces of silver. And you may wonder why these things come upon you. Can you not see that the whole thing is brought about through the craft of the devil to draw you from your work and hinder your obedience to God?

Keep about your work. Do not flinch because the lion roars. Do not stop to stone the devil's dogs. Do not fool away your time chasing the devil's rabbits. Do your work. Let liars lie, let sectarians quarrel, let corporations resolve, let editors publish, let the devil to his worst; but see to it that nothing hinders you from fulfilling the work that God has given you.

He has not sent you to make money. He has not commanded you to get rich. He has never bidden you to defend your character. He has not set you to work to contradict falsehood, which Satan and his servants may start to peddle. If you do these things, you will do nothing else; you will be at work for yourself and not for the Lord.

Keep about your work. Let your aim be as steady as a star. Let the world brawl and bubble. You may be assaulted, wronged, insulted, slandered, and rejected of men, but see to it with steadfast determination, with unflinching zeal, that you pursue the greatest purpose of your life and object of your being, until at last you can say, "I have finished the work that Thou gavest me to do."

~ H.M.S. Richards, Sr. (SDA Evangelist/Author/Founder of the Voice of Prophecy, 1894–1985)