

If We Don't Give Up...

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up (Galatians 6:9, English Standard Version). The New King James Version is similar, except that it says, *"we shall reap if we do not lose heart."*

After exhorting the believers in Galatia and warning them of the things they should avoid (Galatians 5:1—6:8), Paul may have known they would be feeling overwhelmed with the responsibilities of the Christian life. Therefore, in verse 9 he encourages them with the words, "do not give up!"

Have you ever become so weary of the Christian fight that you have thought, "I wish I could just give up"? Satan entices us to give up. He wants to foil the good works of Christians and will use every trick to accomplish this. One of his favorite tricks is to make us weary and feel like we don't want to continue the fight. It is a battle and the devil uses devices to bring us down. We must remember to *put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil* (Ephesians 6:11, KJV). There are times we grow weary and want to rest, but the book of Hebrews reminds us, *"Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it* (Hebrews 4:1). Note that in both of these passages there are warnings from Paul and the Hebrews writer (who could be Paul), that we will not reap nor will we have rest if we give up or come short. We would be in such a position that we would not be able to reap from our good works, nor would we be able to partake in eternal rest. We can fall from grace. Therefore, giving up is not really an option, and if so where would we go? *But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life* (John 6:68).

For the elders,
Tony Williams