



GIVING GOD OUR BEST



**“Then saw everything that He made,
and indeed it was very good...”**

Genesis 1:31

Mediocrity

- **Nothing higher than “getting by”**
 - Content with low level of quality
 - Nothing above “adequate” or “good enough”
 - Work offered is inferior
- **Haggai 1:4 “Is it a time for you yourselves to live in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins?”**



Mediocrity

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 - Content with low level of quality
 - Nothing above “adequate” or “good enough”
 - Work offered is inferior
- **Malachi 1:8 “When you present a blind animal for sacrifice, is it not wrong? And when you present a lame or sick animal, is it not wrong? Bring it to your governor! Would he be pleased with you or show you favor?” asks the Lord of Armies.”**

Mediocrity

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 - Work offered is inferior
- **Proverbs 3:9 “Honor the Lord with your possessions and with the first produce of your entire harvest”**



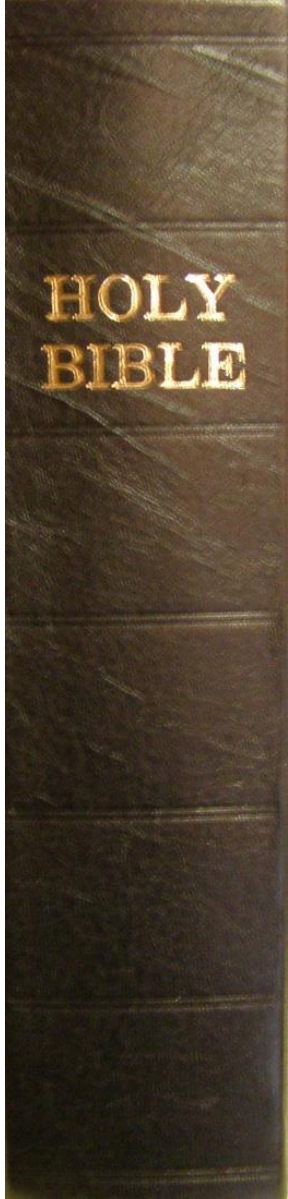
Mediocrity

“The general tendency of things throughout the world is to render mediocrity the ascendant power among mankind.” **John Stuart Mill**

- **“Mediocre”**
 - Of moderate to low quality; average or inferior
- **When we do only “what is easy” then mediocrity increases**

Excellence

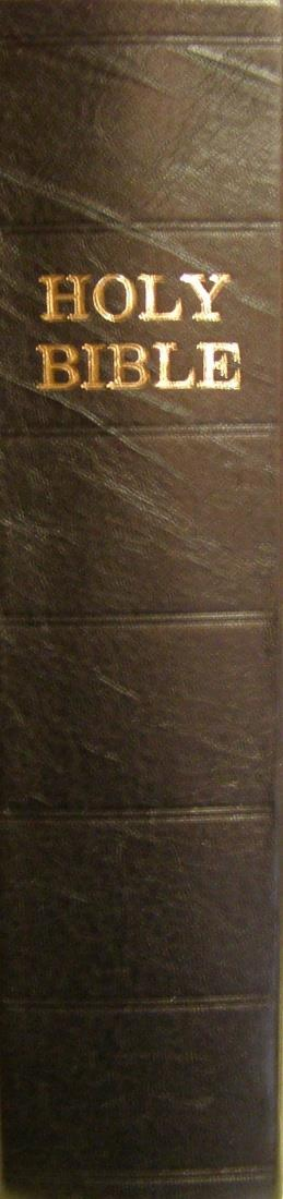
- We should have a commitment to excellence in ALL we do
 - Ecclesiastes 9:10 “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going.”



HOLY
BIBLE

Excellence

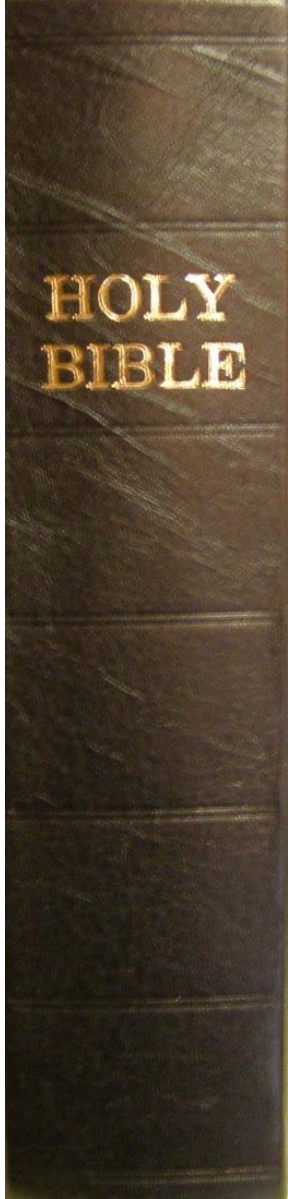
- We should have a commitment to excellence in ALL we do
 - Colossians 3:23-24 “And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.”



HOLY
BIBLE

Excellence

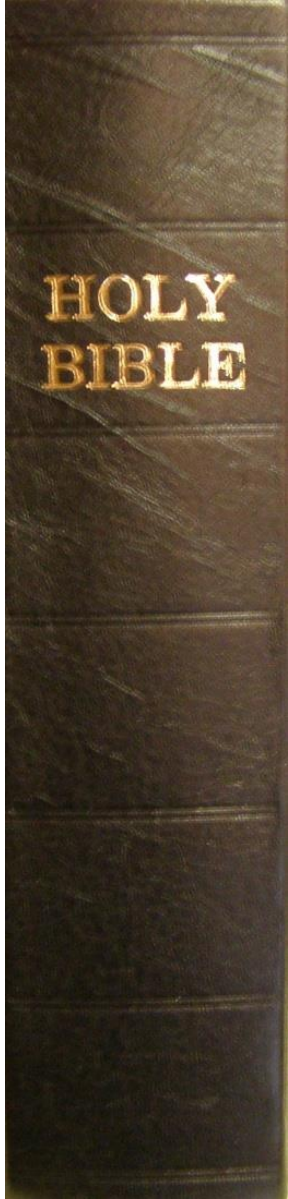
- We should have a higher standard of excellence in the Lord's work
 - 1 Corinthians 15:58 "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."



HOLY
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Excellence

- We should have a higher standard of excellence in the Lord's work
 - 2 Corinthians 9:6 "But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."



HOLY
BIBLE

Excellence

- **We should take pride in our work**
 - Galatians 6:4 “But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.”
 - We have a duty to “adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things” (Titus 2:10)



Excellence

- **Commitment to excellence requires extra effort**

–Carefulness and hard work are required

“Pay careful attention, then, to how you walk—not as unwise people but as wise” **Ephesians 5:15**

“Be diligent to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who doesn’t need to be ashamed, correctly teaching the word of truth” **2 Timothy 2:15**

Excellence

- **Strive to "give of our best" to the Master**

- Go "beyond ordinary"

- Strive for the "quality life" in Christ & for Christ

It is not a shame to fail; it is a shame to aim low

- **Nothing but the best is good enough for the Lord who gave His life for us!**

For the love of Christ compels us, since we have reached this conclusion, that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all so that those who live **should no longer live for themselves**, but for the one who died for them and was raised. **2 Corinthians 5:14-15**

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

Hear and Learn – *Rom. 10:17; John 6:45; 17:3*

Believe – *Heb. 11:6; John 6:29; 8:24*

Confess the Lord – *Matt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10*

Repent – *Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19; 17:30*

Be Baptized – *Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; Gal. 3:26-27; 1 Pet. 3:21*

Be Faithful Unto Death – *Revelation 2:10*

Go and Share the Good News!

Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16