

*Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

**Sermon Notes for February 9-10, 2002**

**Dale Whitehead**

**"Working Hard but Taking No Credit"**

**Philippians 2:12-13**

In this final appeal to walk in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, Paul will introduce to us three different concerns.

His first concern is that they work out their salvation.

Working out our salvation does not mean that we work for our salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Working out our salvation means that we will exert the necessary effort to live out a life of obedience consistent with the gift of salvation that we have received.

The verb "work out" (KATERGAZOMAI) is a present imperative and communicates a very strong and consistent effort.

Based on Philippians 2:12 we are responsible for our sanctification and if we fail it is our fault (Exodus 14:10-16).

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The participle translated "so then" in verse 12 helps us to see that the command to "work out your salvation" is a Christian's necessary and proper response to the exaltation of Christ.

The word "fear" (PHOBOS) originally had the meaning of flight, that which is caused by being scared. Later it came to mean that which caused flight. We get our English word "phobia" from this Greek word.

The word "tremble" (TROMOS) means "to shake involuntarily with fear, excitement, cold etc." We get our English word "trauma" from this Greek word.

A healthy fear of the Lord is not a bad thing. It is a good thing (Psalms 34:1-9).

We need to love the Lord who died for us but we need also to fear the Lord who has been exalted to the right hand of the throne of God and who had been entrusted with all judgment.