

Elder Bobby Willis



Romans 12:11, "**Not slothful in business, fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;**"

There are a number of words that were used a great deal when I was a young boy that are no longer in today's vocabulary. One such word is "slothful". We surely would not want to hurt someone's feelings by telling them they were not getting the job done, or that they were maybe just plain "lazy". Today's society has become a society of not dealing with reality, but of some fantasy world where everyone is entitled. This is one reason why we have so many different types or versions of the bible. The true unadulterated Word of God found in the King James Translation (KJV) has been watered down in the new, modern versions so it will not "hurt" anyone's feelings and supposedly make the bible easier to read. For example, the NIV says, "Never lacking in zeal". One can have plenty of zeal but have it pointed in the wrong direction. The lesson in the first part of Romans 12:11 is one of not being slack in business. The reference to business is not even mentioned in the NIV. If we are slothful in business we do not take care or provide for our families or the household of faith (church) as we should. Paul told Timothy in I Timothy 5:8, "**But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.**" Did you notice how serious this is? Many of us may have failed in this area but should be willing to admit it and ask for forgiveness where we come up short and then get with it. When we do not serve the Lord with all of our heart, understanding the godly teachings as found in the Word of God (the bible), then we will be slack (slothful) in many areas of our lives. The bible teaches us the better way to be fervent in business and in our spiritual lives while serving the Lord as we are commanded. Notice the scripture which the lawyer quoted to Christ in Luke 10:27. He quoted it from Deuteronomy 6:5, "**And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.**" There is no slothfulness found in this verse whether it be in business, in taking care of our

families, in providing for the welfare of the church, or our blessed privilege of serving the Lord. Don't be slothful, but rather be fervent. Think About It!