

# PLAIN SPEECH

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**“Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech” (2 Cor. 3:12)**

By Scott Parker

## WOULD YOU BE HOMELESS OR HEAVENBOUND?

And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end” {Hebrews 6:11}.

*“Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ” {2 Peter 1:5-11}.*

Diligence comes from the Greek word, **σπουδή** {spoudē} which is defined as: “an earnest and extraordinary commitment in discharge of an obligation” (Bauer 939). In simpler terms, diligence is all about making a real effort to get things done correctly.

Now, having shared some scripture and properly defined a term, let’s press on towards application.

Have you ever wondered what would become of so many who say that they are members of the church if they took the selfsame diligence with regard to their physical pursuits as they do with spiritual matters? Here is what I envision...

- ❖ Sadly, I see lots of people who have bills stacked up to the sky; making no real effort to getting around to paying any of them.
- ❖ Sadly, I see lots of people who have been fired from their job all because they would not listen to the boss and made no real effort to fulfill their duties as employees.
- ❖ Sadly, I see lots of people who have failed marriages; all because they made no real effort to discover and fulfill their scriptural duties.
- ❖ Sadly, I see lots of homeless people who were too busy to send any mortgage payments to the bank.
- ❖ Sadly, I see lots of parents who have children that are nothing but smart mouthed, self-absorbed, little monsters all because no real effort was made to raise them properly.
- ❖ Sadly, I see lots of people who have lawns that are overgrown with weeds, roofs with holes, and home interiors that are literally filled with trash all because no real effort was made to the contrary.
- ❖ Sadly, I see lots of people who cannot read or write and who do not ever use proper grammar all because no real effort was made in school.
- ❖ Sadly, I see lots of people who have to walk anywhere they want to go all because they put forth no real effort to pay the note on the cars they were financing.
- ❖ Sadly, I see lots of people who are on welfare all because no real effort is made to get a job.
- ❖ Sadly, I see lots of people with falling apart bodies all because no real effort was made to be healthy.
- ❖ Sadly, I see lots of people who have no friends all because no real effort was made to forge such relationships.

Folks, without applying diligence in the physical arena, so many who claim to be Christians would be nothing more than derelicts. What then must we conclude of so many who fill the pews, in all honesty and actuality?

How about you? Are you diligent? Better be sure as your soul’s salvation depends upon your answer.