

76. Soldiers and Athletes

Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs—he wants to please his commanding officer. Similarly, if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the rules. The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops. (2 Timothy 2:3-6 NIV)

Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. No, I beat my body and make it a slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified from the prize. (1 Corinthians 9:25-26 NIV)

Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat of its grapes? Who tends a flock and does not drink of the milk? Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain. If we have sown spiritual seed among you, is it too much if we reap a material harvest from you? In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel. (1 Corinthians 9:7, 9, 11, 14 NIV)

For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. (1 Timothy 4:8 NIV)



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AFFAIRS	GAMES	RULES
AIMLESSLY	GRAIN	RUNNING
ATHLETE	GRAPES	SOLDIER
BEATING	HARDSHIP	SOWN
CIVILIAN	HOLDING	STRICT
COME	INVOLVED	TRAINING
COMPETES	MATERIAL	TREADING
CROPS	MUZZLE	VICTOR
CROWN	PHYSICAL	VINEYARD