

The Daily Goal For Spirituality

Introduction

- A. It is important to have clearly defined goals. The old saying is correct, "If we aim at nothing we are sure to achieve it."
- B. The Christian understands about goals. The Bible exhorts us to live for the glory of God. The problem, however, has to do with the meaning of the glory of God in our daily life,
- C. One very helpful way of making the glory of God practical is to make a verbal affirmation when you first get up in the morning such as – "In this day I will please the Lord." And then – maintain that attitude during the day – and do what you know will please Him.

I. The Basis for this Goal of Spirituality.

- A. David made such a goal practical in his daily life.

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer. Psalm 19:14 NIV

Comment: How did David become such a godly person that the Lord said he was a man after His own heart? (Acts 13:22) One reason is that David had a spiritual goal – he wanted to please the Lord.

- B. Paul made such a goal practical in his daily life.

So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. II Cor. 5:9,10 NIV

Comment: There came a time in the life of the Apostle Paul when he established the goal – that he was going to please the Lord. This undoubtedly was a major step toward his spirituality.

- C. Paul taught that such a goal was important in one's daily life.

Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk (live) and to please God, so ye would abound more and more. I Thess. 4:1

Comment: Apostolic teaching when written into the Bible under divine inspiration – should carry a lot of weight with us. We cannot treat this verse as if it were an optional matter. All of us should follow these directions and establish such a goal.

C. Enoch was commended for living so as to please God.

By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death, and was not found, because God had translated him, for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

Comment: Enoch lived in a very ungodly day. The verse explains one way in which he learned how to live as a spiritual person – he had a very simple and practical goal – he sought to please God.

D. John taught that such a goal was related to a successful prayer life.

And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. I John 3:22

Comment: At least two great truths are taught in this verse. First of all we have an identification of obedience with pleasing God, and then the reminder that such a life is a necessary foundation for a successful prayer life. If we believe the Bible we can only say – "I must learn to please God and do it every day!"

II. The Explanation of this Goal of Spirituality.

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect (equipped) in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. Heb. 13:20,21

Comment: Many Christians seek to do the will of God as though it were a mystery withheld from them. These verses identify the will of God with pleasing Him. Are we longing to do the will of God but somehow never get started? Here is how we can start today – establish the goal – "I will please the Lord."

III. The Assurance Related to this Goal of Spirituality.

Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do His good pleasure. Phil. 2:12,13

Comment: These verses should encourage us a great deal. They plainly teach that God is seeking to work in us so we will make the right decisions (to will) to obey Him (to do) and thereby please Him. When we establish such a goal in our life – "I will please the Lord" – we are working in harmony with God.

Conclusion: Let's establish this goal in our life now –and then reinforce it each morning by saying – "Today, I am going to please the Lord."

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