

## **Secrets Of A Beautiful Life**

No. 73

### **Introduction.**

- I. Today I would like to speak on the “Secrets Of A Beautiful Life.” When we study the lives of the great men and women of the Bible we see much beauty of character. While they were not perfect people, they did rise far above their contemporaries in character. Such great men and women as Moses, Joseph, David Dorcas, Lydia, Priscilla, Pater, Peter and John were spiritual giants, for they learned the secrets of beautiful living.
- II. Our great problem is learning to live calmly and joyously in a world fraught with temptation, doubt, fear and dissolution. The Bible lays down the prescription for a beautiful life.
  - A. Paul wrote in Philippians 4.

**PHI 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!**

**PHI 4:5 Let your forbearing spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near.**

**PHI 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.**

**PHI 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.**

**PHI 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, let your mind dwell on these things.**

**PHI 4:9 The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things; and the God of peace shall be with you.**

**PHI 4:10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned before, but you lacked opportunity.**

**PHI 4:11 Not that I speak from want; for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.**

**PHI 4:12 I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.**

**PHI 4:13 I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.**

- B. Here Paul lays down a wonderful prescription for a beautiful life, and all who follow his layout will find a beautiful life.
- C. There are several secrets of a beautiful life.
  - I. **Victory** - One secret of a beautiful life is victory.
    - A. God wants us to be victorious We are taught to live so as to be victorious. (1 Jn. 5:4).
    - B. Many of us let ourselves be defeated even from childhood.

1. A boy learns that it takes effort and hard work to succeed in athletics so he concludes he cannot win and does not do his best.
  2. A little girl finds she cannot play the exercises on the piano or do her art work and so she lets herself be defeated.
  3. In youth, many times, we find lessons too difficult, duties too grievous, discipline too harsh, passions too strong and so we go through life defeated.
- C. On the other hand when the lesson of overcoming is learned early in life studies are mastered, games are not lost for want of exertion, and all of life falls into this pattern of victory.
1. It is possible for us to always be over comers with Christ as our Helper.
  2. Paul wrote. (Phil. 4:13).

II. **Serving** - A second secret of a beautiful life is serving.

- A. Jesus said. (Mk. 10:45).
- B. Again He taught. (Matt. 23:11,12, Jn. 9:4).
- C. Service will turn the hole life from that of merely seeking happiness to doing good to others - the giving of happiness. The highest place is that of earnestly serving others. When we learn this lesson we are prepared to be a blessing to every life we touch and this is the heart of Christlikeness.

III. **Live A Day At A Time** - A third secret of a beautiful life is to live a day at a time.

- A. We usually think of life in its entire span - running years and years
  1. It seems too long to face.
  2. We cannot fight the battles for seventy or eighty years or more.
- B. But really there are no long stretches, for our time here is not measured to us in lifetimes, but only a day at a time.
  1. Someone has said, “Anyone can do his work, however hard, a day at a time. Anyone can break a bad habit for a day. Anyone can do a good deed for a day or withstand a sorrow and anyone can be happy for a day - till the sun goes down.”
  2. So the admonition is well taken, “Do today’s duties, fight today’s battles. Do not weaken and distract yourselves by looking forward to things you cannot see and could not understand if you saw them.”
  3. Jesus said. (Matt. 6:34).

**IV. Live By The Light We Have** - A fourth secret of a beautiful life is to live by the light we have.

- A. The light of Jesus now shines for us brighter than it did a year ago if we are striving for the prize of Jesus.
- B. We should walk by the light we have today and do our best where we are.
  - 1. We should be found doing the simple things we know are right and the Lord will bless our every effort.
  - 2. One who walks in Jesus, the Light of the world, can live through the storms of life: temptation, doubt, fear, disappointment, sorrow and separation.

**V. Open Our Eyes To More Truth** - Another secret of a beautiful life is to open our eyes to more truth.

- A. This calls for earnest study of the precious word of God.
- B. We can be quite sure that not nearly enough study of God's word is taking place in our country. There are so many things that require our time and thought.
  - 1. Not many of us are "meditating on the law of the law day and night." (Psa. 1:2).
  - 2. Not many obey the divine order. "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed..." "but sanctify in your hearts Christ as Lord: being reading always to give answer to every man that asketh you a reason concerning the hope that is in you, yet with meekness and fear." (2 Tim.2:15; 1 Pet. 3:15).
- C. This lack of serious study is not because we do not have enough time but because precious time is wasted, especially in the home.
  - 1. Many spend 20 or more hours a week watching television.
  - 2. Of the thousands of waking hours from childhood to maturity only a few are spent in Bible study.
  - 3. The beautiful life cannot be found without serious study of the Book of all books - the precious, inspired word of God.

**VI. Trust God** - Another secret of a beautiful life is to trust God.

- A. A man of faith once said. (2 Tim. 1:12).
- B. The man of faith will not fret, but will trust. He will love and labor, sympathize and serve. He will never doubt a future God can see or stagger at a promise of help God has given. He trusts God completely and believes that "all things work together for good to them that love God." (Rom. 8:28).
  - 1. There are so many things we do not understand and perhaps never will understand in this life; but it adds to our happiness to accept them by faith.
  - 2. So we joyfully sing:

Not now, but in the coming years,  
If may be in the better land,  
We'll read the meaning our tears:  
And there, sometime, we'll understand.

## Conclusion.

I. Life will be more beautiful if we will begin each day with these words.

### This Day He Made

I stand on the brink of a glorious  
new day,  
Knowing not what it may hold,  
There may be toil, or sorrow or  
care,  
Or many joys may unfold.

But this I know with all my  
heart,  
With this new day I should  
rejoice,  
And put to work the precepts He  
gave,  
For in His precious Word I'm told  
"This is the day the Lord hath  
made."

So as the hours go fleeting by  
And evening is drawing near,  
I must use them in every way  
To glorify Him, who gave His call,  
For "This is the day the Lord  
hath made." by Barbara Oldroyd

II. A man who was a **collector of choice china** was being shown through a pottery shop where the most beautiful china was on display. He picked up a lovely cup and from the knowledge of the value of such things he said, "This must be a very expensive cup." But the guide said, "It was intended to be worth a great deal more, but there is a flaw in it." The man said, "I don't see any flaw." And the guide replied, "But our master does, and he will not send it out if it is not perfect."

III. The world may look at some of us and complement us, but our great Master, the Lord Jesus Christ, sees the flaws. He knows that we have often failed to glorify Him by not living by the secrets of the beautiful life, by not doing our best, by not living as obediently as we know to live. Let's live daily by these secrets that we may be happy and glorify God and have His approval in that last day.

IV. The Lord's invitation is now extended to all who want salvation and the beautiful life Christ offers. Come and submit your life to Christ as we sing.

"Scripture taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE®,  
© Copyright 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation

Used by permission." ([www.Lockman.org](http://www.Lockman.org))

