

#3. The godly person is extravagant in their _____ and _____ of God,

(Psalms 150) "Praise the LORD! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty firmament! {2} Praise Him for His mighty acts; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness! {3} Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; Praise Him with the lute and harp! {4} .. Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes! {5} Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with clashing cymbals! {6} Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD!"

#4. The godly person is extravagant in their _____ to God,

(2 Corinthians 11:23-28) "Are they ministers of Christ?; I speak as a fool; I am more: in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often. .. {26} in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; {27} in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness; {28} besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches."

#5. The godly person is extravagantly _____ to God,

(Luke 7:40-47) "And Jesus answered and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." So he said, "Teacher, say it." {41} "There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. {42} "And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?" {43} Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have rightly judged." {44} Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. {45} "You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. {46} "You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. {47} "Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little.""



Central Mountains Baptist Church

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Wise Buy

Godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come. —1 Timothy 4:8

I read with interest the newspaper ad about a thermostat that automatically adjusts the temperature of a house to the appropriate level, day or night. If what the ad claims is true, the thermostat will pay for itself in energy savings within 1 year. When I multiply that savings by the projected life of the unit, it is obviously to my advantage to buy it. Yet interestingly enough, I find that I'm hesitant to spend the money today to purchase the unit. But why, if it is such a value?

This question has a spiritual counterpart. I find that at times I can be slow to expend the faith needed to make wise long-range spiritual investments. Even though I know God stands behind every claim He makes, my reluctance to trust Him reveals how self-centred I can be.

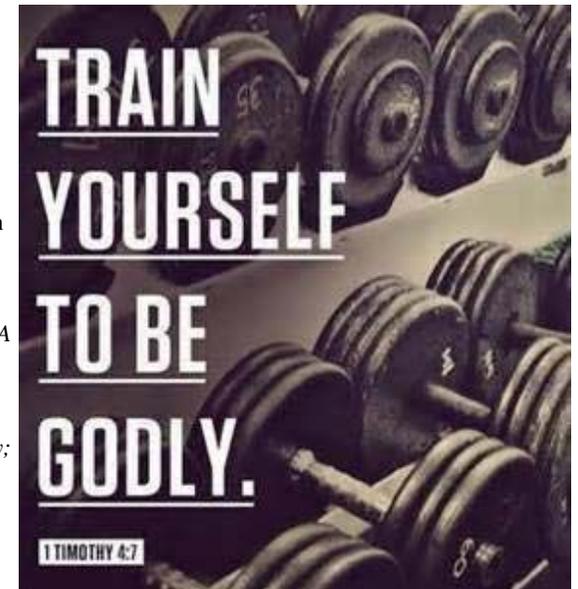
Because even believers in Christ can become spiritually short sighted and unwilling to pay the price of commitment to the Lord, Paul reminded Timothy to make every effort to be an example to the believers "in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (v.12). That requires effort and discipline, but the apostle was convinced that anyone who chooses to invest in godliness will find that his decision more than pays for itself both in this life and in the life to come (v.8). — MRDII

What holds me back? Some earthly tie? A thirst for gain?

A strange entanglement with life? A pleasure vain?

*Dear Lord, I cast it all aside so willingly;
The path of true discipleship I'll walk
with Thee. —Adams*

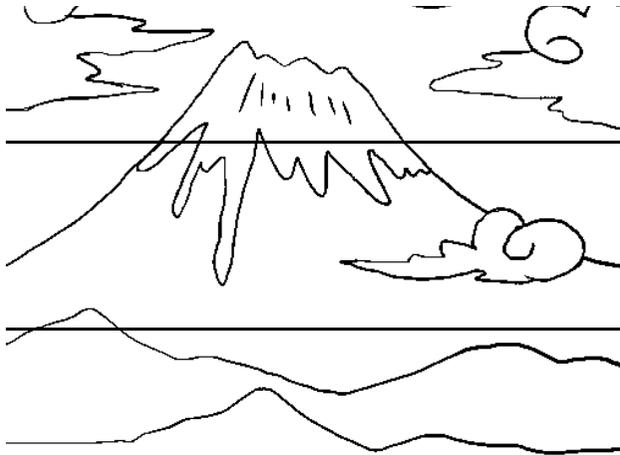
Following Jesus costs more than





2 Peter: Overcoming Error The Way of Fruitfulness VII

The Way of Fruitfulness



The Summit of:

- ◆ Godliness
- ◆ Brotherly kindness
- ◆ Love

The Hard climb of:

- ◆ Self control
- ◆ Perseverance

The Foot-Hills of:

- ◆ Faith
- ◆ Virtue
- ◆ Knowledge

Let's consider two descriptions of the life of godliness:

1. A description of the _____ of godliness, verses 5-7

(1 Timothy 4:7) "But reject profane and old wives' fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness."

(1 Timothy 6:6) "Now godliness with contentment is great gain."

(Philippians 4:11-12) "... I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: {12} I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound.

Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need."

(Philippians 3:13-14) "Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, {14} I press toward the goal ..."

(Matthew 5:28) ""But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart."

(Matthew 26:41) ""Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.""

2. A description of the _____ of godliness, v 5-6, 3, 3:11

(1 Timothy 6:11) "But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness,



Apa Sherpa

faith, ..."

(1 Timothy 4:7-8) "... exercise yourself toward godliness. {8} For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come."

(1 Timothy 3:16) "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory."

(Titus 1:1) "Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to ..the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness,"

(Acts 10:2) "a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, ..."

(1 Timothy 2:2) "for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence."

(1 Timothy 5:4) "But if any widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show piety at home and to repay their parents; ..."

(2 Timothy 3:12) "Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution."

(1 Timothy 6:3-5) "If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words.. and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, {4} he is proud, knowing nothing, .. {5} .. and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself."

(2 Timothy 3:4-5) "... lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, {5} having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!"



Some areas of life where godliness will show:

#1 The godly person gives extravagant _____ to God,

(Ephesians 5:15-16) "See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, {16} redeeming the time, because the days are evil."

#2. The godly person makes extravagant _____ for God,

(Hebrews 11:32-38) "And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: .. {35} ... And others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. {36} Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. {37} They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented; {38} of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth."



Adoniram Judson