

Being Successful In The Sight Of God

Bible Study – October 21, 2021 – Pastor Charles A. Hall

Worldly Success:

The world defines success by measuring the amount of wealth, power, and popularity a person obtains in this world. Worldly success is deceptive and disastrous, because they focus on what will soon fade, and pass away, and ignores what is lasting, and eternal. Worldly success apart from Godly success is short-sighted, and usually leads to personal misery, and disappointments. Worldly success is what the heart of man views as having value, a favorable or satisfactory outcome or result.

- **James 4:13-14**
- **Matthew 16:26**

Godly Success:

God and the world have two vastly different views concerning achieving success. In the Word of God it is clear that Godly success is not measured by earthly standards, but by God's standards. Therefore, the most important criteria that is necessary in being successful in the sight of God, is how well a person's life lines up with the commandments and ordinances of God. David who God said was a man after his own heart, David however, was certainly not perfect, and his life did not always line up with God's standards, however when we consider the totality of his life, and his relationship with God, he was certainly a man whom we can honestly say was a man who lived his life to please God rather than please man. When David was about to die, he passed on some excellent advice to his son Solomon, pertaining to how to live a successful life, in the sight of his creator God Almighty. Seeking Godly success over worldly success, can sometimes cause us to suffer minor afflictions in this world, in order to gain eternal treasures. Eternal treasures in heaven, are everlasting, and never fade away, nor can thieves break in and steal or destroy them.

- **1King 2:3**
- **1Samuel 13:13-14**
- **Hebrews 11:25**
- **Matthew 6:19-20**

God told us in His word, that the greatest commandment of them all, was to love him with all our heart, and soul, and the second was to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Loving God, and our fellowman means more than just an outward expression of love, it also includes obeying God's word, and living in accordance with His commandments.

- **Mark 12:30-31**
- **John 14:15**
- **John 14:23-24**

No one can live a life of success in the sight of God, without first being reborn by the Spirit of God, and as a result being transformed by God's Spirit into a new creature, one that is now able to love God and his fellowman without expecting anything in return. It is impossible to love God, obey His commandments, and love each other without experiencing a genuine

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transformation or change by the Holy Spirit. This is known as regeneration or rebirth. When this transformation is completed we become new creatures in the sight of God, our relationship is changed, we are no longer just His creation, we are also now His sons and daughters. We now have His spirit inside of us guiding our behavior, and reconciling us back to Jesus Christ.

- **John 3:3-5**
- **John 1:12-13**
- **2Corinthians 5:17-18**

Now as followers of Jesus Christ, who have been regenerated, and filled with His spirit, we can now live our life in a way that allow us to manifest or display the fruits of God's spirit, which is now in our hearts - love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control.

- **Galatians 5:22-23** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance, against such there is no law.