Peg Y. Rhone



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II Corinthians 3:18

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1 - Eyes on the Lord

The use of the word "secret" in this class is,
"a secret is a specific, or key, to a desired end, or result."
The desire for every man should be to live life successfully.

Mark 8:36 - For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

Everyone wants to succeed in life. No one sets out to be a failure. God wants you to succeed, too. One key to the *Secret of Radiant Living* is to get your eyes off of yourself and on the Lord and His glory.

There is a God and you are not Him. He made a way for you to be born again into His family.

The secret of radiant living is to live FOR and with the MASTER.

In Genesis 1:1 it says that in the beginning GOD created the heavens and the earth. God is the Author of all life. If we are going to do it right, we have to do it God's way.

God created ALL things for His own glory and for His pleasure. Rev. 4:11. We were made *by* God, and *for* God, and until you figure that out life isn't going to make sense. You will spin your wheels on second rate causes.

God has a plan. He had a plan before the "foundations of the world." His plan is to have a family. His plan is to have a family through the Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Heb. 1:1-3. Right now we see through a glass darkly, but God has revealed all we need to know to have faith in Him now unto the saving of our soul. Mark 8:36

Heb.1:3 NLT - The Son reflects God's own glory, and everything about him represents God exactly.

The Son radiates God's own glory and expresses the very nature and character of God. That's the point of this life; for YOU to become a son of God, and to reflect God's glory to the world. Heb. 1:1-3 That pleases God.

God is everywhere present, all things came from God and are for His glory. Why did He create man? THAT they should **seek the Lord** and find Him! <u>Acts 17:24 -31</u>

Jesus Christ is THE way to God, there is no other.

Many people believe in God, but fall short of believing in Jesus Christ. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. There is no other way to save your soul. No good works, and no reincarnation, but salvation which comes *only* through Jesus Christ. John 14: 1-6

BIG QUESTION IN LIFE IS "WHO IS JESUS CHRIST?"

Jesus Christ is the "seed of the woman" promised in Genesis 3:15. He is God's only begotten son, born of a virgin. God was IN Christ reconciling the world unto Himself. <u>II Cor. 5:19</u>. God the Father is NOT Christ. Jesus Christ is the Messiah, the Anointed one, the Redeemer. He is God's son, not God the Son.

Jesus is the savior of mankind. Every man who accepts him as God's way to salvation gains entrance into the Kingdom and the family of God. Those who are saved look forward, with joyful expectation, to a day when God's love covers the whole earth like the sea, and when we shall see God face to face.

The apostle Paul's ministry was to fully preach the Word of God, especially the "mystery", which had been hid from generations and ages, but was made known to him. The "mystery" is CHRIST IN YOU, the hope of glory.

Every one who is born again of God's spirit can radiate the same glory that Jesus radiated from God in Hebrews1:3. The same glory lives on the inside of every born again believer. As long as that child of God has his eyes on the Lord and is walking by the spirit, it is like having Jesus Christ is personally present! Col 2:25-29

Satan had no idea what God had planned. He had no idea that God was going to put His spirit and power in every child of God so that the glory of God could be manifested in **this life** for all the world to see. Jesus Christ's victory over Satan is made manifest, or evident, every time a son of God walks in power.

The Secret of Radiant Living is to know that you are filled with the spirit of the living God. You can walk in all nine manifestations. You can walk with your head held high, in the power of the Living God.

There is no power on earth that can defeat you when you walk with this key in your heart, Christ in you, the hope of glory. And once you are filled with the glory of God's spirit God wants you to preach the "mystery" to every man.

God's plan was conceived and brought forth in love. It was conceived and brought forth through Jesus Christ, His son, the Messiah.

<u>Iohn 14:1</u> - Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

It's not enough to believe in God, we must believe in Jesus Christ also. He is God's plan to bring eternal life to mankind. In John 17:11 Jesus prayed for you, for those who would believe (future) on him, THAT "they may be one, as we are one." God was in Christ, reconciling the world back to himself. Jesus prayed that you would be one as he and the Father are one!

God offers mankind salvation. He doesn't make you get saved, He invites you to accept His gracious gift of salvation. The reason you were born is to be born again. The reason you are here is for the salvation of your soul. In doing so, you achieve the desired end, or result in life, and bring glory to God.

Mark 8:36 -what shall it **profit** a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and **lose his own soul?**

There are two ways to spread the light, to be the Light or the mirror that reflects it.

Christ reflected the glory of God.
We are to reflect the glory of God in Christ in us back to the world.

This is the Secret of Radiant Living.

In the beginning GOD

planned to have a family including ME through His son Jesus CHRIST

GOD was in CHRIST reconciling the world unto Himself, so that we could be one as they are one.

The "mystery" is: God in Christ in me: the hope of glory.

John 17:11



2 - Keep Your Eyes on His Story

God created everything with a purpose, with a plan in mind, and that plan is the family of God.

Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?

For all those things hath mine hand made,

Isaiah 66:1,2

Heaven is God's throne. A throne is a place from whence one reigns, a place where edicts are made and carried out. The Earth is God's footstool, the place where worship is given.

<u>Mat. 6:9,10</u> - Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

God's plan has never been about man going to heaven as a disembodied spirit, but it has always been about bringing His heavenly Kingdom to the Earth until the earth is full of His glory.

The heavens and the earth - FOR ALL THOSE THINGS HATH **MY** HAND MADE.

God does not measure time the way man does. God sees all of eternity at one time. He is omniscient, He sees past, present, and future. Man sees only a sliver at a time, but God wrote the story of eternity, in the stars and in the Bible so that man could "see" in his imagination some of the wonderful future that God has in store for him.

The Father has always had His Story available to give man a choice.

From the time of Adam to Moses, approximately 2,500 years, there was no written Word, as such. Moses first put pen to papyrus when he was moved by the Holy Spirit to write the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible. Did God leave Himself without a witness? Did God leave man in the dark all those years? Absolutely not. He spoke unto His prophet and showed him pictographs associated with groups of stars, which today we call constellations.

<u>Iude 14</u> - And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,

Enoch, the seventh from Adam knew of the Messiah, and of his return with his saints. Job knew of the resurrection of the body, and the sleep of death. Abraham looked for a city whose builder and maker was God, all *before* Moses wrote the Pentateuch. God has never left man in the dark, but has had His Story for man to learn from "since the world began." <u>Luke 1:70; Acts.</u> 3:20,21

<u>Psa. 19:1,2</u> The heavens **declare** the glory of **God**; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day **uttereth** speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.

declare - to rehearse repeatedly, over and over and over.God - Elohim - The Creatoruttereth speech - constantly speaks

The constellations constantly speak His Story, every single night.

God's plan is written in the stars, and nothing can change it.



The constellations tell "His Story" beginning with Virgo, the virgin with child, and culminating in Leo, the Lion of Judah, coming to rule on earth as King of kings and Lord of lords. After that God will be all in all.

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.

There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard. Psalm 19:1-3

Psalm 8 asks the question, "What is man that Thou are mindful of Him?" God is mindful of man because man is the purpose of the ages. God put all of history in motion for His family to be born.

12 signs or constellations correspond with 12 tribes of Israel. It is a very high probability, historically speaking, that the Sphinx in Egypt represents the key to the houses of the zodiac as God designed it. It has the face of a woman (Virgo) and has the body of a lion (Leo).

Satan's kingdom is already broken, the rule of God is already gaining ground; but it has not yet become a historical event.

The kingdoms of this world, the plans and schemes of this world, shall pass away, they are going to come to naught, <u>I Cor. 7:31</u>; but God's plan **endures forever!**

God wants a people, a family.
God created us to be that family.
God created us out of Himself
He created us to be loved
and provided for always and forever.

John 1:1 says that in the beginning was THE word, the thoughts of God's mind, His plan for all eternity, that is and was centered around His son, the Messiah, Jesus. All of history came from the mind of God, it came from His imagination. Imagination is the word *yatsar*, and in Genesis 2:7 this is the word "formed," the Lord formed man of the dust of the ground. Man literally came from the mind, the imagination of God. *Yatsar* not only means imagination, but it comes from the word "conception." This is how man, and all of the universe were **conceived**, **born**, **brought into fruition**, **from the mind of God**.

Jesus was with God in the beginning, in the mind and plan of God, not co-ruling with Him. You and I were with God before the foundation of the world, and we didn't help Him create the universe. <u>Eph. 1:4</u>

We came from God.
We are like God (holy spirit).
We are here to love God.

We were, and are, for His pleasure. Rev. 4:11

<u>Is. 51:16</u> - And I have put my words in thy mouth, and I have covered thee in the shadow of mine hand, **that I may plant the heavens**, and lay the foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion, **Thou art my people**.

God's concern is that we would see the greatness of His plan, His kingdom, NOW, and glorify Him and live in union with Him, NOW.

God wrote His plan, in the Bible and in the stars, see if you can spot it: Ex. 6:7; Lev. 26:12; Jer. 7:23; Jer. 11:4; Jer. 24:7; Jer. 30:22; Jer. 31:33; Ezek. 11:20; Ezek. 14:11; Ezek. 36:28; Ezek. 37:23; Ezek. 37:27; Hos. 2:23; Zech. 8:8; Zech. 13:9; I Cor.6:16; Heb.8:10

And I will be their God, and they shall be my people:

To know this is the Secret of Radiant Living.

3 - Grow Up in Him

God wants us to see the BIG picture. God's concern is that we would see the greatness of His whole plan, His kingdom, NOW, and glorify Him and live in union with Him NOW and forever. We saw 17 times in Scripture that God has a specific plan and purpose; He wants a family and He wants to be our God.

God has a **plan** for the **whole earth**, because His mighty power reaches throughout the whole earth. Who can change HIS plans? NO one! <u>Isaiah 14:26,27</u> Thankfully, you and I are part of God's plan, from before the foundation of the world, to be part of His family. Hallelujah!

One of the *Secrets of Radiant Living* is to **grow up in Him.** In chapter 2 of Jeremiah, verse 13, God addresses HIS people who have committed two evils: they had forsaken Him the fountain of LIVING waters, and hewed out broken cisterns that could hold NO water.

God's desire is that you would be so in tune with His will that out of YOUR belly, your inner life, would flow rivers of living water. <u>John 7:38</u> You would reflect His will here on earth. But, you will have broken cisterns wherever you know God's truth and reject it, no *life* there.

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge

- Trinity vs. Jesus, the **son** of God
- Heaven vs. Paradise (on earth)
- Victim vs. Victory in Jesus
- Works vs. Salvation
- God is angry vs. God is Love

Man's basic spiritual problem is still the integrity of God's word. We must cast off the works, the lies, of darkness and put on the armor of light.

ACTS 17:11 - **THAT** MEN WOULD **SEEK** THE LORD. WE ARE HERE TO CHOOSE GOD! THE SECRET HAS BEEN HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT!

<u>Is. 64:8</u> - But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.

You are the work of God's hand. He wants to mold your life to reflect His glory back to the world. <u>Col 1:27, John 17; 11,21; II Peter 1:4; I Pt. 2:9</u> To crave to walk like Christ is an exercise in sublime humility.

God called YOU to show forth HIS virtues, to reflect His nature, His character, His glory, back to the world.

<u>I Peter 1:22 -25</u> - The Word of the Lord endureth FOREVER. Man's basic spiritual problem is still the Integrity of God's Word.

If the Bible was a piece of secular literature, it would be revered as the greatest literary miracle on the face of the earth, to be intact after all these years.

The Bible is God's wonderful **gift** to mankind. If anyone takes away from God's book, He will take their name out of the book of life. Here is an example of someone endeavoring to change God's word by speaking words of death, broken cisterns. "We are the universe, or the source of all life, or the Creator, or God; whichever name your choose to use," so says Oprah Winfrey!

Oprah is "taking away" from God's Book of Life, the Bible, therefore God shall **take her name out of His book** of (eternal) life! Rev. 22:19 We need to get our information regarding God's plan for life from God, not man, nor from devils. Isaiah 8:19, Deu. 18:11,12

We must read God's word, and learn to discern HIS VOICE by testing it against the accuracy of the Bible. If someone hears a voice saying, "YOU are God," IT DOES NOT LINE UP WITH GOD'S WORD. Jesus said that the words that he spoke were from the Father, and Jesus' words are spiritual LIFE! John 6:63

A statement is not true because man believes it. A statement is not true because man agrees but because **GOD DECREES!**

"A noble and God-like character is not a thing of favor or chance, but is the natural **result** of continued effort in right thinking, the effect of long-cherished association with **God-like thoughts**." James Allen

God has an immutable plan for the whole earth. Our job is not to change God's plan to fit our whims, but to make the conscious decision to **get re-parented by God and grow up** in Him.

To believe is to accept something AS TRUE.

To live in *that* state of being.

What are you accepting as TRUE?

WE NEED TO GROW UP!

My little children, of whom I travail (labor) in birth again until Christ be formed in you. <u>Gal. 4:19</u>

Your spirit it perfect, where do you need to mature? In your mind.

As children of God we need to stop being blown about by every wind of doctrine, where men are lying in wait to **deceive**. Eph. 4:15 The Secret to Radiant Living is to **GROW UP IN CHRIST**. The three stages to mentally growing up in Christ that are clearly defined in I John 2:12-14.

The Three Stages of Natural Growth (see chart), and The Three Stages of Spiritual Growth.

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Trust ye in the LORD for ever:
for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength:

Isaiah 26:3,4

IN the LORD JEHOVAH is the ROCK OF AGES.

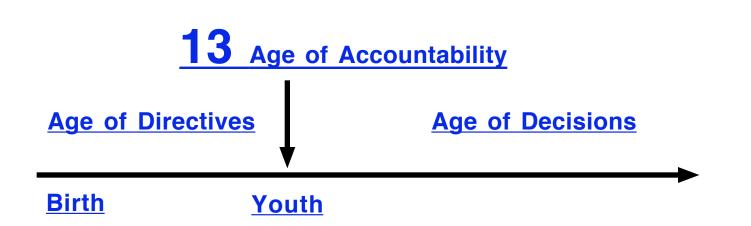
In the LORD JEHOVAH is the ROCK of AGES, the foundation and purpose of God's plan for man and His universe. When we grow up in Christ, by staying our mind, our imagination on God, He will keep us in perfect peace. The reason there is so much turmoil in the world today is because man is not staying his mind on Jehovah and His truth. There will come a day when everyone who loves God now will know Him perfectly and have perfect peace for eternity. What a hope! What a future! But right now, the *Secret to Radiant Living* is to grow up in him in all things.

The Secret, the key, to Radiant Living is to GROW UP in Him.

Three Stages of Growth

This pattern applied to all Hebrew children, even Jesus

Child 1-13 learning to obey w/o question	Youth 13-30 multitude of counselors	Father 30 and up Grown up, training the younger
Basic personality formed by age 6	Takes full responsibility, but makes decisions with group of elders oversight	Full maturity/man Gives guidance Walks in wisdom Teaches others



Teach like Jesus, lovingly and by example.

Three Stages of Growth

Spiritual

I John 2:12-14

Little Children

Your sins are forgiven for His names sake

Young Men

Struggled with and have overcome the wicked one

Fathers

Known *ginosko* Him that is from the beginning (scope)

You have known the Father through the new birth

Strong and the word abides in you & you have overcome the wicked one

Known *ginosko*Him that is from the beginning (scope) You get the whole picture.

NOT DEPENDENT ON AGE!

You can grow as far and as fast as you want with God.

Some Growth "Markers"

- Don't really know how to love yet.
- Ego driven
- Surface relationships
- Selfish
- · Self absorbed
- Learning to obey God, but still struggling.

- Learning to love & care about others
- Struggling to let go of the old and trust God to overcome old habits
- Winning with the Lord more often than not.

- Unconditional love
- Selfless giving
- Putting others first
- Trusting God to supply all your needs
- Very Kingdom focused

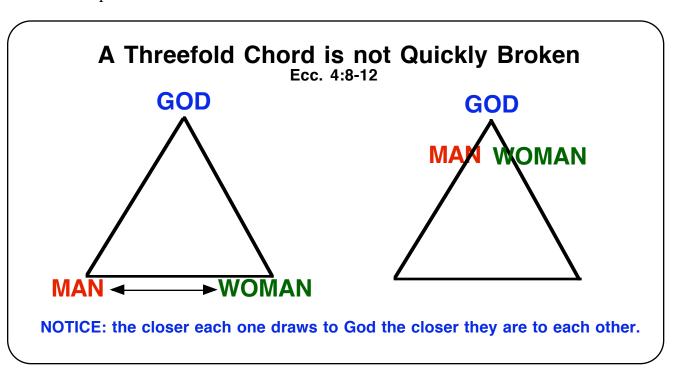
4 - A Happy Home

Our world mirrors heavenly truths: the family, the role of a father, the covenant of marriage, and more. God often uses earthly conventions to express heavenly truths. And so a passage of scripture can have a twofold meaning and application; an earthly and a heavenly.

One of the *Secrets of Radiant Living* is to have a happy home, and if you are married that would mean a happy or good marriage.

The book of Proverbs says, "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD." Pro 18:22 Marriage is supposed to bring **the favor of the Lord upon two people**. It is designed to bring the optimum upon a man and a woman, joined as one, in the earthly plane. But what God designed to enhance life in every way, Satan has distorted and used to destroy lives.

The marriage covenant is so important to God that He gave instructions concerning marriage when there were only two people on earth. <u>Gen. 2:24</u> God commanded Adam and Eve to be one flesh, and to put each other **above any one** else on the planet. The only relationship that comes before your spouse is your personal relationship with the Lord. God says that your spouse is most important person on earth; more important than mother, father, children or acquaintances. God first, your spouse second, and then the relationships you have with your children and parents will be the best that is available.



Marriage is designed to be the strongest force for good on earth, that's why Satan works so hard to destroy it.

In Genesis chapter 1, God gave man and woman dominion over the earth and told the married couple to populate the earth. The husband and wife were supposed to be the most important person on earth to each other, (Gen. 2:24) not to the **exclusion of all others**, but **above all others**, **except God**.

In I Corinthians 11:1, Paul tells both the man and the woman to be followers of him *in* Christ. Not to copy his personal bad habits, but to copy his walk of faith and obedience to the Lord. Verse 3 establishes God's order for the man and the woman in the covenant of marriage.

<u>I Cor. 11:3</u> - But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.

Both spiritual and practical applications are to be gleaned in this verse. Man is the spiritual head of the woman. This involves SERVICE and SELF SACRIFICE from the man, just as Christ served his disciples. No where does God say that man is to be the Bully, the Chief Intimidator, the Selfish Oaf of the family. But he is to be the head in love and in service.

We fail to see the greatness of this union of marriage because we see so many bad examples, for the most part, and so the LORD must teach us its beauty.

When a man and a woman become one flesh in marriage they become the strongest they can be **as individuals** because they are **part of** that threefold chord. And so every believer has the opportunity to squander the relationship of marriage or to do it according to God's will. That would mean to seek to bless your spouse first, and then your own needs. <u>I Cor. 10:24; Phil. 2:10-21</u> The Lord wants a husband and a wife to be kindly affectioned one towards another.

Reality check: How you treat each other is how you treat Christ.

<u>Eph. 5:21-33</u> - these truths are twofold, they apply to both marriage and to individual members in the church's relationship to Christ.

earthly marriage - covenant between a man and a woman - ONE FLESH - Gen. 2:24 **heavenly marriage** - covenant between Christ and you - ONE SPIRIT - I Cor. 6:17 He that is joined to the Lord is **one spirit** - *heis* - **one** to the **exclusion of all others**

1 command given to both: Submitting yourselves one to another in the LOVE of God.

<u>1 command given to woman</u>: **Submit** to and reverence her head, her husband as unto the Lord

8 commands given to man:

- 1) be the head, lead by example
- 2) love your wives, give your SELF for her
- 3) **love** her as your own body
- 4) nourish her
- 5) cherish her
- 6) **ONE FLESH** One can't hurt w/o other hurting, one can't rejoice w/o other
- 7) leave the father and mother in order of first importance
- 8) cleave, to be welded to your wife and "they two shall be one flesh."

Marriage is supposed to be the radiant reflection of how Christ loves the Church. Marriage is not about you "fixing" your spouse; it's about you glorifying God.

Rom 14:10 -12; II Cor. 5:10 - One day we are ALL going to stand before the judgment seat of Christ and give an account of the things we did in our bodies, whether good or bad. We have free will. Are we using our bodies as the holy temples of the Lord, or as a place for demons to satisfy their lusts? Choose things that will *edify* your spouse.

The Secret of Radiant Living is to live the covenant of marriage as <u>God designed</u> it to be lived, and reflect His glory upon the earth.

5 - Happy Children

God's plan when He said to populate the earth was for man to have children who would be born again of God's Spirit, children who would choose God's way. Children are a gift from God. Your own life is a gift from God. Man's purpose on this earth is to learn to order his steps in God's word and make the most out of God's gift of life.

1 - Children are a gift from God.

<u>Psalm 127:3</u> - Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

<u>Proverbs17:6</u> - Children's children are the **crown** of old men; and the **glory** of children are their fathers.

2 - Teach by example. Let them see your devotion to the Lord

<u>Prov. 20:7</u> - The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.

3 - Teach them that they are a child of God, their heavenly Father Who loves them.

<u>Deut. 6:4,7 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:</u> And thou shalt <u>teach them diligently</u> unto thy children

But BEWARE that after the Lord God has blessed you abundantly that you forget the goodness of the Lord and do not put Him first. When you are abundantly blessed and forget the Lord then you will bring forth no fruit to perfection. Because there will come a day when every man, including your children, must give an account to the Lord of how they lived this life.

In Deuteronomy 33:26, there is a beautiful verse where God calls Himself the *God of Jeshurun*. This is a term of endearment and affection to emphasize that God is your eternal refuge. His everlasting arms are underneath you, and He thrusts out your enemies. Teach your children.

Teach your child from birth. Teach them all throughout the day. Teach by example.

It's when we think children are learning the least that they are learning the most. The first few years of a child's life THEY ARE TAKING IN EVERYTHING in their surrounding and their personality is formed by the time the child is 6 years old. (see chart page 11)

The greatest gift that you can give your child is a godly example.

4 - Teach them to walk in power.

God wants ALL children to by taught of the Lord. Who is supposed to teach them? YOU are! And the benefit is that they shall have GREAT peace! Who would not want great peace for their child? <u>Isa 54:13, 14</u> We teach them to walk according to the Lord's commandments and to walk in the power of the Lord, all nine manifestations.

Do you know how your children are going to learn this? Because they see Mommy and Daddy do it. They see that walking supernaturally is the "natural" way to live life. This is teaching them to walk in the wisdom of the Lord. <u>Prov. 3:13</u> Wisdom provides boundaries for children, and children are much happier WITH healthy boundaries.

Children are much happier WITH healthy boundaries.

Children need to be taught accountability. When they obey, things go well, when they disobey there are consequences. I am not a fan of corporal punishment, but "time out" or other forms of letting the child know that a particular action is wrong needs to be employed.

Children need to be taught accountability

Proverbs 19:13 says, "A foolish son is the calamity of his father." Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child, but raising him according to God's rule book will drive that foolishness from his heart.

<u>Prov. 3:1,2</u> - My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For **length of days**, and **long life**, and **peace**, shall they add to thee.

These are promises from God to you! Teaching your child to obey God's word/law will add length of days, long life, and peace to your child's life. Who would not want this? But most of all, we should all desire for our children to be born again so that we can spend eternity with them.

<u>Is. 66:22</u> - For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, **so shall your seed and your name remain.**

Isaiah saw God's plan; this earth will wax old, but in the new heavens and a new earth shall be made/regenerated as a home for all the sons of God to live on forever. The invitation to man in this verse is to get with the Lord's program "so shall *your seed* and *your name* remain. What could be more disappointing than the idea of NOT spending eternity with a loved one, especially your child? Because we are going to know one another when we get to the Kingdom in Jerusalem, to Paradise on earth.

God has an eternal plan, and it's not changing for you, or anybody. A parents #1 Goal in life, to lead your children to the Lord.

Ezekiel 37:25, says that when you choose God's way that you and your children's children shall dwell their forever. Now that's something worth committing your life to as a parent.

You are going to recognize and know your loved ones in eternity.

The goal of life is to get into the Kingdom and get your children there too. And so your job as a parent is to train up a child in the way he should go, so that when they reach the age of accountability they can choose the Lord, choose to do His will, so that they can be HAPPY!

Isaiah 33:6 says that **wisdom** and **knowledge** are a child's **stability**. Not the wisdom of the world, but the wisdom of God's word. Satan wants your child to live in selfishness and rebellion, but God wants them to learn generosity and obedience. (see page 11)

TEACH your children to use their imagination.

- 1 Encourage a HEALTHY imagination: Jesus, the Kingdom, walking in the miraculous.
- 2- "imagination" literally means "conception."
- 3 Imagination is how we conceive God's ideas.

Without a godly imagination children and adults become spiritually and creatively sterile.

<u>Rom. 1:20-22</u> - For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

No one wants to raise a fool. We all want to raise wise children.

When we fail to be thankful and glorify God, our imagination automatically becomes vain. That doesn't mean it isn't working; it just means it begins to work against us. A person with a vain imagination is a pessimist, imagining failure instead of success. We need to teach our children to use their imagination to **agree with God's Word** and **see themselves the way God sees them**: happy, healthy, prosperous, loving and thankful, thankful.

You don't HAVE to be thankful to God, you GET TO be thankful to God.

I believe that unthankfulness is an abomination. The Lord tells us not to learn the abominations of the nations, and not to IMAGINE EVIL. <u>Deut. 18: 9-12; Zech. 7:9-12</u> If children don't learn evil, they won't imagine evil. If they are taught godliness do you know what they will imagine? The things of God.

I don't know anything uglier than a selfish disposition. I don't know of anything more beautiful than to have mercy, and compassion, and a loving spirit.

This is what we need to be teaching our children, mercy and compassion and good judgment. You might ask yourself, "The end times are coming, is my child equipped?" But an even more pertinent question might be, "is my child equipped for today?"

God says in III John 4, "I have **no greater joy** than to hear that my children walk in truth. God's greatest joy should be our greatest joy. Let's train up our children in the goodness of the Lord.





6 - To God be the Glory

Life is not a dress rehearsal. We have one shot to do it right, and this is it. God has revealed His story, His plan and purpose, His love for man, and His desire to have a family. Each person on earth has the opportunity to choose God by way of Jesus Christ.

Catch the vision of the Lord on His throne!

Isaiah saw the Lord seated on His throne and his response was, "Here am I, send me." And the Lord God said, "Go, and tell the people."

<u>Is. 6:1</u> In the year that king Uzziah died I [Isaiah] saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.

<u>Is. 6:8,9</u> - Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, **Here am I; send me.** And he said, **Go, and tell this people**,

Each person needs to find their "WHY," a reason to do the things that they are committed to in this life. Isaiah 14:24 - 27 gives me *my* "WHY." I believe that there is a God and He has a purpose and plan for my life. I want to line my life up with His plan. Why? Because I love Him.

<u>Isaiah 14:26</u> - <u>I have a plan</u> for the whole earth, for my mighty power reaches throughout the world.

We were made by God, and for God, and until you figure that out, life isn't going to make sense. You will spin your wheels on second rate causes.

John saw it:

<u>Rev. 4:2:2-8</u> And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne.

And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald.

And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold. And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind.

And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle.

And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty - Kurios Theos Pantokrator: Kurios - the Lord or Owner; Theos - the Magistrate; Pantokrator - the All Sovereign One Who is over all. Day and night the host of heaven are confessing before the throne of God that He is worthy of glory, honor and power.

<u>Rev. 4:11</u> - Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

God has a master plan that cannot be broken. Get your eyes off yourself and onto the Lord. You were created to bring glory to your Father in heaven.

My quest becomes, "Lord, what can I do for you? How can I further your gospel?"

- 1 It ALL comes from the hand of God
- 2 I Peter 2:9 And we are here to show forth the praises, the virtues, the character of Him Who has called us out of darkness and into His marvelous light.
- 3 II Cor. 3:18 "We are **changed** into the same image" **of glory**, to reflect God's glory back to the world.

To God be the glory, it's all about Him.

We have one shot to live life right, and there is only one way, Jesus Christ

<u>Heb. 9:27</u> And as it is appointed unto men **once to die**, but after this the judgment:

Jesus is God's way to give us spiritual life. John 10:10 That is the way to life and peace. John 14:1 says "Let not your heart be troubled." Only Christ can lift the burden of sin, and relieve the pressures of this life. This is God's plan, there is no other. God has purposed with a purpose His plan, no one can change it.

<u>John 3:36</u> - He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son **shall not see life;** but the wrath of God abideth on him.

In I Corinthians 3:1-16, the Lord is once again imploring you to grow up! These verses are addressed to you, the believer, to those who have made their foundation Jesus Christ. Every man's (every believer's) work shall be tried by fire, of what sort it is. If you got born again and lived for the Lord, you will receive a reward. But, if you accepted Christ and lived for yourself then you shall suffer loss. The choice is yours.

<u>Rom. 13:12</u> - The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

It's time to WAKE UP and to be about our Father's business. It is required of stewards that a man be found faithful, not perfect. I can be faithful. God has bought me with a price, Jesus Christ. I am no longer my own, but I am part of the temple of the Holy Spirit. I Cor. 6:19

<u>James 1:23</u> - Don't just hear God's word, DO IT! We need to live for God and let others see the goodness of the Lord through our walk.

- 1 our love and devotion to the Lord
- 2 our compassion and forgiveness towards others
- 3 in authenticity: deeds not words.

<u>Matt. 5:16</u> - Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and **glorify** your Father which is in heaven.

It's all about God and His glory.

"Behold I make all things NEW!" One day there will be a new heavens and a new earth, and the tabernacle of God, God Himself shall be with His people, perfectly. That time will be the union of heaven and earth, so that God is every where present and God is all in all. God's plan, His purpose for the ages will come to pass in all its fulness. This is our future! This is our hope. Rev. 21:1-7,22

I long to look in Jesus eyes and hear these words, "Well done, my good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord." I long to serve Christ in the millennial Kingdom until all enemies are made his footstool and he presents a restored earth back to his heavenly Father, so that God can be all in all. To God be the glory, great things He hath done!

We need to love God above all else.

We need to grow up in Him.

To get our eyes on the Master and follow him.

We need to train up the next generation.

We need to reflect God back to a world that so desperately needs Him.

This is the Secret of Radiant Living.

