

## **Main Point: Make an Effort to be Godly**

- Cite: vv. 5-7
- Cite v. 3
- Cite v. 10

Definition of Godliness: Godliness is a response of the heart to the godliness of God.

### **Why make an Effort to be Godly?**

#### **1. God provides godliness**

Cite v. 3

Cite v. 4

Cite v. 11

Cite v. 1

John Newton Quote:

“I can truly say, that I bear you upon my heart and in my prayers. I have rejoiced to see the beginning of a good and gracious work in you.

And I have confidence in the Lord Jesus, that He will carry it on and complete it and that you will be amongst the number of those who shall sing redeeming love to eternity.

Therefore fear none of the things appointed for you to suffer by the way. But gird up the loins of your mind, and hope to the end. Be not impatient, but wait humbly upon the Lord.

You have one hard lesson to learn, that is, the evil of your own heart. You know something of it, but it is needful that you should know more. For the more we know of ourselves, the more we shall prize and love Jesus and His salvation.

I hope what you find in yourself by daily experience will humble you, but not discourage you: humble you it should, and I believe it does.

Are not you amazed sometimes that you should have so much as a hope, that, poor and needy as you are, the Lord thinketh of you?

But let not all you feel discourage you. For if our Physician is almighty, our disease cannot be desperate and if He casts none out that come to Him, why should you fear?

Our sins are many, but His mercies are more: our sins are great, but His righteousness is greater: we are weak, but He is power. Most of our complaints are owing to unbelief, and the remainder of a legal spirit. And these evils are not removed in a day.

Wait on the Lord, and He will enable you to see more and more of the power and grace of our High Priest.

The more you know Him, the better you will trust Him: the more you trust Him, the better you will love Him; the more you love Him, the better you will serve Him.

This is God’s way: you are not called to buy, but to beg; not to be strong in yourself, but in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. He is teaching you these things, and I trust He will teach you to the end.

Remember, the growth of a believer is not like a mushroom, but like an oak, which increases slowly indeed but surely.

Many suns, showers, and frosts, pass upon it before it comes to perfection. And in winter, when it seems dead, it is gathering strength at the root.

Be humble, watchful, and diligent in the means, and endeavour to look through all, and fix your eye upon Jesus, and all shall be well.

#### **2. It holds off the discouragement that comes from fruitlessness**

Cite v. 9

Quote: “People are not saved by their efforts. But, on the other hand, grace saves no one to make him like a log of wood or a block of stone. Grace makes people active. God has been diligently at work with us; now we must diligently work together with him.”

Cite - 1 Timothy 3:13

**Application:**

**1. Don't forget the gospel**

Cite v. 9

Quote:

“Many Christians live with a truncated view of the gospel. We see the gospel as the “door”, the way in, the entrance point into God’s kingdom. But the gospel is so much more! It is not just the door, but the path we are to walk everyday of the Christian life. It is not just the means of our salvation, but the means of our transformation. It is not simply deliverance from sin’s penalty, but release from sin’s power. The gospel is what makes us right with God and it is also what frees us to delight in God. The gospel changes everything!” The Gospel Centered Life, Bob Thune Jr.

**2. We need to apply the Gospel**

Two Examples:

1. Gospel-shaped confession of sin.
2. Gospel shaped fellowship

**3. Do one thing this week that you know you need to start doing in order to grow in godliness.**

Quote: “As we have seen a mason take up first one stone and then another and then gradually build a house, so are we Christian to take first one virtue and then another, piling up these stones of grace upon one another until we have built a palace for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.” - Charles Spurgeon