

A Moments Wisdom 2012

We too often let the material things serve as indicators that we're doing well, even though something inside us tells us that we're not doing our best.

I think a hero is an ordinary individual who finds strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles.

Patience serves as a protection against wrongs as clothes do against cold. For if you put on more clothes as the cold increases, it will have no power to hurt you. So in like manner you must grow in patience when you meet with great wrongs, and they will then be powerless to vex your mind.

Before withholding thy charity, remember that a shroud has no pockets.

What I gave, I have; what I spent, I had; what I kept, I lost.

A bit of fragrance always clings to the hand that gives you roses.

It is not long after the hand ceases to scatter that the heart ceases to pray.

If everyone gave a thread, the poor man would have a shirt.

Those who give have all things; those who withhold have nothing.

The miser hoards himself into poverty.

When the need is highest, God is highest.

Do unto others as though you were others.

Fear that man who does not fear God.

When you drink from the stream, remember the spring from whence it flowed.

A man is judged to be good by the positive qualities he possesses, not by the absence of faults.

If you chase two rabbits, both will escape you.

Who seeks more than he needs hinders himself from enjoying what he has.

The guilty catch themselves.

Habits are cobwebs at first, cables at last.

By taking the first step with a good thought, the second step with a good word, and the third step with a good deed, I enter happiness.

Hasty climbers have sudden falls.

Hatred is its own punishment.

One nice thing about egotists: They don't talk about other people.

Procrastination is the art of keeping up with yesterday.

Laughing at our mistakes can lengthen our own life. Laughing at someone else's can shorten it.

Christians are not sinless, but they should sin less.

During Bible Classes and sermons, some Christians are afflicted with S.A.D.D. -

“Spiritual Attention Deficit Disorder.”

“If you want a religion that makes you feel comfortable, I certainly cannot recommend Christianity.” - C. S. Lewis

Read the Bible for information, not confirmation.

The mind is like a parachute; it only works when it is open.

There are no small sins against our Great God. The enormity of the sin is measured against the greatness of the One offended.

The Son of God became the Son of Man in order that sons of men could become sons of God.

With all due respect, even God does not get everything He wants; He wants all men to be saved.

First seek to understand, and then seek to be understood.

Speeders and slow-pokes both meet at the traffic light. The only time one truly profits by haste is when the Bible summons him to obey the will of God.

Hatred is self-punishment.

A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle.

It pays to be honest, but often you must wait a long time to collect.

Honesty is a question of what is right and wrong; it is not a matter of policy.

A misty morning does not always signify a cloudy day.

Lighthouses don't ring bells and fire cannons to call attention to themselves; they simply shine on.

A sense of humor is the pole that adds balance to our steps as we walk the tightrope of life.

Some professed Christians want to live like goats and die like sheep.

Televangelists: The WWF pro-wrestlers of religion.

If psychics really have the ability to “see,” why do they ask you for your name?

Selfishness is not living as one wishes to live; it is asking others to live as one wishes to live.

Remember, you aren't the only one with cares or concerns. We all get tied up in ourselves and forget about others. They have problems too. Some people carry enormous loads.

There are two things a person should never be angry at, what they can help, and what they cannot.

Wrinkles should merely indicate where smiles have been.

An ounce of practice is worth more than tons of preaching.

Let no man pull you low enough to hate him.

There are three things we can do with a humanly impossible situation: we can abjure it and run away; we can endure it and do nothing about it, or we can seek to cure it by taking responsibility.

When you decide to do something of importance, start it at once.

Stop complaining about having no time for yourself and get up an hour earlier. You have the option, why not exercise it?

You seldom, if ever, get lucky sitting down.

"The trouble with being punctual is that nobody's there to appreciate it." (Franklin Jones)

"I am a believer in punctuality though it makes me very lonely." (E. V. Verrall)

"Laugh and the world laughs with you; be prompt and you dine alone." (Gerald Barzan)

It should be valued highly

"Promptitude is not only a duty, but is also a part of good manners; it is favorable to fortune, reputation, influence, and usefulness; a little attention and energy will form the habit, so as to make it easy and delightful." (Charles Simmons)

"I give it as my deliberate and solemn conviction that the individual who is habitually tardy in meeting an appointment, will never be respected or successful in life." (W. Fisk)

"I owe all my success in life to having been always a quarter of an hour before my time, and it has made a man of me." (Lord Nelson)

"Punctuality is the politeness of kings." (Louis XVIII)

"Unfaithfulness in the keeping of an appointment is an act of clear dishonesty. You may as well borrow a person's money as his time." (Horace Mann)

"Better hours too soon than minutes too late. Better late than never, but best never late!" (William Shakespeare)

Some people want to live like a goat and die like a sheep.

Nebuchadnezzar's furnace will seem like a spring breeze compared to hell fire.

Anyone who is satisfied to stand still should not complain when others pass him.

It is useless to put your best foot forward if you are going to drag the other.

Indecision is the graveyard of good intentions.

He who asks a question is a fool for a few minutes; he who does not ask remains a fool forever.

Nature is the living, visible garment of God. "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead" (Rom. 1:20).

Until man duplicates a blade of grass, nature can laugh at his so-called scientific knowledge.

If you love what you do, then it is no longer work. The money you earn is secondary when you love your work.

If you have one eye on yesterday, and one eye on tomorrow, you're going to be cockeyed today.

If you are still talking about what you did yesterday, you haven't done much today.

If you spend your whole life waiting for the storm, you'll never enjoy the sunshine.

One problem with gazing too frequently into the past is that we may turn around to find the future has run out on us.

Do not let your shadow walk you. You are not a slave of the past.

It's but little good you'll do a-watering the last year's crops.

The past is a guidepost, not a hitching post.

People are always asking about the good old days. I say, why don't you say the good now days?

Eternity is not something that begins after you are dead. It is going on all the time.

Forever is composed of nows.

It is only possible to live happily-ever-after on a day-to-day basis.

If you worry about what might be, and wonder what might have been, you will ignore what is.

We crucify ourselves between two thieves: regret for yesterday and fear of tomorrow.

While we spend time considering when to begin a good work, it becomes too late.

Cast no dirt into the well that gives you water.

It is easier for some people to do themselves an injustice than it is for them to do someone else a favor.

An honest man is not the worse because a dog barks at him.

The smallest good deed is better than the grandest intention.

Rotten wood cannot be carved.

Women are more irritable than men; the reason being is that men are more irritating.

No man is a complete failure until he begins disliking men who succeed.

Hatred and anger are powerless against kindness.

No one can make another man a debtor against his will.

Civilization is always in danger when those who have never learned to obey are given the right to command.

He who adds not to his learning diminishes it.

The most powerful agent of growth and transformation is something much more basic than any technique: a change of heart.

Some people change when they see the light; others when they feel the heat.

Everyone thinks of changing the world, but very few think of changing themselves.

Nothing is easy to the unwilling.

We want the facts to fit the preconceptions. When they don't, it is easier to ignore the facts than to change the preconceptions.

If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude. Don't complain.

When you blame others, you surrender your power to change.

Hard work spotlights the character of people: some turn up their sleeves, some turn up their noses, and some don't turn up at all.

It's not the hours you put in your work that counts, it's the work you put in the hours.

'Now' is the operative word. Everything you put in your way is just a method of putting off the hour when you could actually be doing your dream. You don't need endless time and perfect conditions. Do it now. Do it today. Do it for twenty minutes and watch your heart start beating."

Nothing is as embarrassing as watching someone do something that you said couldn't be done.

Nothing is as frustrating as arguing with someone who knows what he's talking about. When you finally go back to your old home, you find it wasn't the old home you missed but your childhood.

If we preach the whole counsel of God, we shall be accused of extremism, not only by the world but also by a professing church that cannot endure sound doctrine.

A preacher should have the mind of a scholar, the heart of a child, and the hide of a rhinoceros. His problem is how to toughen his hide without hardening his heart.

The preacher who will not preach his heart out before a few people would be no good before a multitude.

It is not enough to love to preach. We must love those to whom we preach.

The task of the preacher is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable.

I trust I am not one who pounds because he can't expound.

One should enter the pulpit as though it were the first time, as though it could be the best time, and as though it might be the last.

Preaching the truth makes people either sad, mad, or glad. Too many people today leave church on Sunday neither sad, mad, nor glad; they go out as they came in. Better go out mad than just go out.

An awful lot of preaching misses the mark because it proceeds from love of preaching, not love of people.

Some preach the truth and don't have love. Some preach love and don't have the truth. Get the mixture right. The truth will keep you from dissolving into sentimentality; love will keep you from hardening into severity.

The devil will let a preacher prepare a sermon if it will keep him from preparing himself. Too many church services start at eleven o'clock sharp and end at twelve o'clock dull.

If you want to be popular, preach happiness. If you want to be unpopular, preach holiness.

Preaching a sermon that is strong on information but weak on application, is like shouting to a drowning man, "SWIM! SWIM! The message is true, but it's not helpful.

To change and to change for the better are two different things.

A wise man changes his mind, a fool never will.

The risk you take if you change: that people you've been involved with won't like the new you. But other people who do will come along.

Everybody wants to do something to help, but nobody wants to be the first.

Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.

People can cry much easier than they can change.

Any change, even a change for the better, is always accompanied by drawbacks and discomforts.

By nature man hates change; seldom will he quit his old home till it has actually fallen around his ears.

When was honey ever made by only one bee in a hive?

Happiness is not a state to arrive at, but a manner of traveling.

The sure way to miss success is to pass by the opportunity.

Our character is but the stamp on our souls of the free will choices of good and evil we have made through life.

Failure to accord credit to anyone for what he may have done is a great weakness in any man.

Compassion is not weakness.

Great occasions do not make heroes or cowards; they simply unveil them to the eyes of men. Silently and perceptibly, as we wake or sleep, we grow strong or weak; and last some crisis shows what we have become.

There's a basic human weakness inherent in all people which tempts them to want what they can't have and to not want what is readily available to them.

The willingness to change one's mind in the light of new evidence is a sign of rationality not weakness.

The problem is not that there are problems. The problem is expecting otherwise and thinking that having problems is a problem.

Expecting the world to treat you fairly because you are a good person is a little like expecting a bull not to charge you because you are a vegetarian.

Treat a man as he is, he will remain so. Treat a man the way he can be and ought to be, and he will become as he can be and should be.

One nice thing about egotists: They don't talk about other people.

To be intoxicated is to feel sophisticated but not be able to say it.

We should never do by law what can be accomplished by morality.

To talk a lot and say nothing is like climbing a tree to catch fish.

Fortune lost, nothing lost; courage lost, much lost; honor lost, more lost; soul lost, all lost.

It was the Almighty who decreed that men and women must cover their nakedness by wearing proper and modest clothing. No amount of rationalizing can change God's will.

No amount of fashion design can turn immodesty into virtue, and no amount of popularity can change sin into righteousness.

Dress modestly. Girls, go and find modest clothes and wear them, make them as beautiful as you can and be attractive and make up to your boyfriends with a bright intellect and sweet spirit and attractive demeanor. It is a rather weak girl who has only her body to attract someone.

The rapid, sweeping deterioration of values is characterized by a preoccupation--even an obsession--with the procreative act. Abstinence before marriage and fidelity within it are openly scoffed at--marriage and parenthood ridiculed as burdensome, unnecessary.

Modesty, a virtue of a refined individual or society, is all but gone.

Modesty is the conscience of the body.

Modesty is the beauty of women. (Gaelic Proverb)

Modesty is not only an ornament, but also a guard to virtue.

When virtue and modesty enlighten her charms, the glow in the face of a woman is brighter than the stars of heaven.

The greatest weakness of all is the great fear of appearing weak.

You can't let praise or criticism get to you. It's a weakness to get caught up in either one.

It is so with dogs and men: the weaker they are the louder they bark.

You cannot run away from weakness; you must some time fight it out or perish; and if that be so, why not now, and where you stand?

A coward gets scared and quits. A hero gets scared, but still goes on.

Great occasions do not make heroes or cowards; they simply unveil them to the eyes of men. Silently and perceptibly, as we wake or sleep, we grow strong or weak; and last some crisis shows what we have become.

In poverty and other misfortunes of life, true friends are a sure refuge. The young they keep out of mischief; to the old they are a comfort and aid in their weakness, and those in the prime of life they incite to noble deeds.

Failure to accord credit to anyone for what he may have done is a great weakness in any man.

The weakest among us has a gift, however seemingly trivial, which is peculiar to him, and which worthily used, will be a gift to his race forever.

Gold is tested by fire; man is tested by gold.

Living in the lap of luxury isn't bad, except that you never know when luxury is going to stand up.

Marriage is an institution, not a reform school.

To marry for beauty is like buying a house for its paint.

All of the good proverbs have been written; it now only remains to put them into practice.

Even a bad man has his value; you can learn from him how not to live.

Poor memory often has its root in poor attention.

A wise man changes his mind; a fool, never.

Great minds discuss ideas; mediocre minds discuss events; small minds discuss people.

Misfortunes test friends and detect enemies.

We spend January 1st walking through our lives, room by room, drawing up a list of work to be done, cracks to be patched, smudges to be cleaned. Maybe this year, to

balance the list, we ought to walk through the rooms of our lives, not looking for flaws, but for potential.

The greatest you can do for another is not just to share with him your riches, but to reveal to him his own.

Love at first sight is easy to understand; it's when two people have been looking at each other for a lifetime that it becomes a miracle.

It is not so much being free from faults and imperfections as overcoming them that is an advantage to us; it being with follies and weaknesses and errors, as with the weeds of a field, which, if destroyed on the soil where they grow, enrich and improve it more than if they had never sprung up there.

People who accomplish things that count are usually too busy to count their accomplishments.

God loves the sound of your voice; talk to Him often.

God is everywhere, including at your wit's end.

Every day God gives us is a rose; and, there are some people who spend it complaining about the thorns.

For a free facelift: smile.

When there is a long row to hoe, remember: God is still in charge of the garden.

When God looks for value, He assesses what's in the heart, not the bank.

If you want to find out how rich you really are, count all of the things you have that money can't buy.

If you can't thank God for what you have, thank Him for what you have escaped.

You have everything when you love everything you have.

Happiness comes when you are too busy to be miserable.

To carry a grudge is like being stung to death by one bee.

A man can fail many times, but he isn't a failure until he begins to blame somebody else.

To err is human, to blame the next guy even more so.

The easiest thing to find is fault.

Everything that irritates us about others can lead to an understanding about ourselves.

God is God. Because He is God, He is worthy of my trust and obedience. I will find rest nowhere but in His holy will, a will that is unspeakably beyond my largest notions of what He is up to.

Keep praying, but be thankful that God's answers are wiser than your prayers.

I have found that there are three stages in every great work of God: first, it is impossible, then it is difficult, then it is done.

When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don't throw away the ticket and jump off. You sit still and trust the engineer.

Those who are readiest to trust God without other evidence than His Word always receive the greatest number of visible evidences of His love.

Trust the past to God's mercy, the present to God's love and the future to God's providence.

Misfortunes test friends and detect enemies.

He is always right who suspects that he makes mistakes.

A mistake at least proves that someone stopped talking long enough to do something.

The man who takes the time to explain his mistakes has little time for anything else.

The only complete mistake is the one from which we learn nothing.

It's alright to forget your mistakes as long as you remember their lessons.

Do not be disturbed over being misunderstood; be disturbed over not understanding.

Moderation in one's temper is a virtue; moderation in one's principles is a vice.

They love the old who have not experienced the new.

It is the shame of our times that when money speaks, the truth is silent.

The hardest thing about making money last is making it first.

The person who does not know where his next dollar is coming from, usually doesn't know where his last dollar went.

A narrow mind and a wide mouth usually go together.