

# Present Benefits of Godliness

1 Tim. 4:7-8

## Introduction:

- A. Given the work and self-sacrificing, does it really pay to be a Christian and live godly? It pays double!
  - 1. Unlike bodily exercise, godliness profits all things in this and next life.
  - 2. It is easier for most of us to see benefits of dying godly, but not of living godly.
- B. Godliness offers wonderful benefits for “the life that now is.”

## Discussion:

### I. A Life Filled with *Unfailing Care*. (1 Pet. 5:6, 7).

- A. God’s general and unconditional care for all people. (Matt. 5:45).
- B. God’s special and conditional care for His people. (Matt. 6:33; 1 Cor. 10:13; 1 Pet. 3:12).
  - 1. Abraham's “way of escape”. (Gen. 22:9-14)
  - 2. Joseph and Esther.
  - 3. The care of Elijah. (1 Kings 17:1-16).
  - 4. The coming of Titus to Paul. (2 Cor. 7:5-8).

### II. A Life Filled with *Unusual Wealth*. (Mark 10:23-31).

- A. Wealth in heaven - “in the age to come, eternal life”..
  - 1. Christian's real IRA. (cf. Matt. 6:19-21; 1 Tim. 6:17-19)
  - 2. Sometimes pray “that will be enough”.
- B. Wealth on earth - “a hundred fold now in this time”.
  - 1. Have hundreds of houses, lands, etc. among Christians.
  - 2. Have hundreds of relatives among Christians.

### III. A Life of Filled with *Unparalleled Happiness*.

- A. One must be careful about making happiness his goal in life - will do *whatever* makes him happy.
- B. One can make godliness his goal in life and find a happiness found in no other lifestyle.
  - 1. Godliness with contentment. (1 Tim. 6:6; Phil. 4:11).
  - 2. Peace that passes all understanding. (Phil. 4:4-9).
  - 3. Unspeakable (Inexpressible) Joy. (1 Pet. 1:6-8)
    - a. Can one adequately express the joy of being saved? (Acts 8:39; 16:34; 1 Pet. 1:9).
    - b. Can one adequately express the joy of serving God with other Christians? (Acts 2:46,47).
    - c. Can one adequately express the joy of seeing others grow in the Lord? (3 John 3,4)
    - d. Can one adequately express the joy of helping others to heaven. (1 Thess. 2:19,20).
  - 4. Rejoicing in hope. (Rom. 12:12).
    - a. A hope that is well anchored. (Heb. 6:13-20)
    - b. A hope that causes us to rejoice when others cannot. (Heb. 10:34; Acts 5:40-42; 2 Cor 12:10)

## Conclusion:

- A. Without life to come, this life would be have little real meaning. (cf. 1 Cor. 15:19).
- B. With life to come, we have the wonderful benefits of living godly in this life as well.