

"QUALITIES OF AN IDEAL PERSON"

Psalms 37:37

INTRODUCTIONS:

A. There are many celebrities today that are viewed by our youth as role models.

1. They come from the entertainment world, from the athletic arena, from different walks of life, **even the drug world**.

2. They are *admired* for their **accomplishments**, their **fame**, their **station in life**, their **success**, and in many cases their **wealth**.

B. Because of such, many of our youth see them as "*the ideal person*", with little or no concern for their life style, or how they treat others.

1. They **don't consider**: (1) how they got what they have, or (2) how they got to where they are.

2. Our youth give little thought as to the struggle and sacrifice in terms of peace, these celebrities face each day to keep what they have *and to maintain the image they project*.

C. **David's advice**, under the inspiration of the Spirit, *is not to mark* the famous or popular man, the successful one, or the wealthy ones

1. His advice is to "*mark the perfect man*", and behold (keep your eye on) the upright. **WHY? "For the end of that person is peace!"**

2. 1. Everything that glitters is not gold!!

II. DEFINITION OF AN "IDEAL PERSON"

A. "A person after whom **all men** can and should consider patterning their lives."

1. How many do you know? The list is soon narrowed down to one person - **Jesus Christ!**

B. By using Jesus we soon discover some things that aren't necessary for a person to be considered "*an ideal person*." **Such as:**

1. Jesus didn't need material wealth.

a. He owned no property - "*He had no place to lay His head.*" (Mat. 8:20)

b. He had no money - *He paid His taxes with money taken from a fish's mouth* (Matt. 17:24-27).

d. He had no burial plot - He was buried in a borrowed tomb (Mk. 15:43).

2. He didn't need physical beauty to be an ideal person.

a. **Isaiah 53:2** = "*Jesus had neither comeliness nor beauty that man should desire him.*"

b. Nevertheless, today He is called: "**the Fairest of Ten Thousand, the Lily of the Valley, the Rose of Sharon, the Bright and Morning Star.**"

C. **What qualified Jesus as the "ideal person?"**

1. Important to note, He became marked *after the Baptism of the Holy Ghost*. "***This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased.***"

2. Afterwards, the **Fruit of the Spirit** being manifested in His life qualified Him to be a role model for us all.

III. QUALITIES OF THE SPIRIT IN THE LIFE OF AN IDEAL PERSON - (**Gal. 5:22-23**)

A. **Love** - the ability to **share ourselves** with others.

1. Loving God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.
2. Loving our neighbor as ourselves.
3. Loving our enemies.

B. **Joy** - that stems from being happy in Jesus and with Him.

1. Results in a glad countenance.
2. Results in a pleasant disposition (regardless of circumstances).
3. Formula is **J**esus first, **O**thers second, **Y**ourself last.

II. PEACE IN THE HOLY GHOST. **There are types of peace.**

A. **Inner Peace**: A peace which remains constant in the storm.

I read about a submarine that was on patrol during wartime and had to sub-merge and stay submerged overnight.

When it resurfaced the next day, the captain on another ship in the group radioed the captain of the submarine and asked, "How did you fare in that terrible storm last night?" Surprised, the officer exclaimed, "What storm? We didn't know there was one."

Although the ocean's surface had been whipped into huge waves by high winds, the submarine was not affected because the waters below remained calm and tranquil.

Likewise, the Christian's heart and mind can be protected from the distracting waves of worry and anxiety caused by troubling circumstances. One minister described the peace of God as "that eternal calm which lies far too deep in the praying, trusting soul to be reached by any external disturbances."

Isaiah 23:3 "*Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.*"

1. Someone once explained these words this way:

- a. "**Thou**" refers to our precious God and Father.
- b. "**Perfect peace**" is a priceless possession.

- c. *“Whose mind is stayed on thee”* has to do with a present focus.
- c. *“Because he trusts in thee”* speaks of a powerful faith."

Quote: “The believer: ⁽¹⁾who is confident of God's providence, ⁽²⁾who rests in His grace, and ⁽³⁾who relies on His Holy Spirit *will experience the miracle of His quieting peace.*”

*Give me a spirit of peace, dear Lord,
In the Midst of the storms and tempests that roll,
That I may find rest and quiet within,
A calm buried deep within my soul. -Dawe*

B. **The second peace** is that of Outer calm that the Holy Ghost brings.

- 1. This type of peace permits one to *“follow peace with all men.”*

C. Fruit of the Spirit **“Longsuffering”** – produces patient endurance in trials.

- 1. Jesus endured and overcame every trial that man experiences.

John 16:33 *“These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.*

E. **Gentleness** - leads us to be mild-mannered, generous and kind.

F. **Goodness** – is about virtue, righteousness, honor in actions, thoughts and attitudes.

G. **Faith** – enables us to be trusting and confident in God, and others.

- 1. This fruit encourages others to believe.

H. **Meekness** – results in our being humble and soft spoken, as a sheep to the slaughter.

I. The fruit of **Temperance** will reveal itself through self-control and moderation.

- a. The fruit of temperance is seen in our self-discipline.

IV. CONCLUSION:

A. These qualities of the fruit of the Spirit help us grow to be like Jesus, the Ideal Person.

- 1. Seeking to be anything else is a *“Bad Bargain.”*

Many years ago a primitive tribe observed a custom of electing a king every 7 years. During his reign he was given authority to do whatever he wanted.

BUT there was one hitch! At the end of his brief reign he was put to death to make way for a new leader. *Believe it or not, there were always men who were willing to exchange their lives for 7 years of power and indulgence.*

B. Many people (young and old alike), are more foolish than that.

- 1. They are willing to exchange their eternal souls for the pleasures of this world,

which bring only temporal satisfaction.

2. Some hold on to a bad habit or are captivated by a pet sin they don't want to give up.

a. They know that if they trust Christ for salvation it would affect their lifestyle. *So they reject His offer.*

C. Many are willing to give up an eternity of joy and satisfaction that is found in Christ.

1. They choose instead to pattern their lives after those who will only experience a few years of fleeting earthly pleasure.

2. **To do so doesn't make good sense. It is a bad bargain!!**

3. *If this describes you*, don't run the risk of losing your soul. You need to acknowledge your sin and accept Christ today.

Accept the teaching of the world

If hopeless you would be;

But trust in God's eternal Son

If you want life with peace, that's free.

Mark 8:36 *"What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?"*

D. You must decide for yourself, no one else can for you.

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