

A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE

I. Eyes Looking To The Master.

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:2.

1. What it is.

- (1) The strongest motive for running well in the Christian race.
- (2) A holy habit.
- (3) A continuous action.

As the gaze of a mariner, steering his vessel through perilous seas, is perpetually fixed on the compass, so we, voyaging to eternity through the treacherous waters of time, must have our eyes centered on Christ as the sole director of our progress.

2. Why?

- (1) He is the supremest object of human interest.
- (2) He is the dearest object of human love.
- (3) He is the answer to the deepest needs of our souls.

3. Where?

- (1) In the scenes of His earthly career of service --
Example.
- (2) In the place of His atoning and sacrificial death --
Saviour.
- (3) On the throne of His triumphant mediation -- Intercessor.

4. How?

- (1) With our eyes.
 - a. Undivided.
 - b. Not wandering.
 - c. Not careless.
 - d. Trustful.
 - e. Loving.
 - f. Obedient.
- (2) By studying His biography.
- (3) By communing with Him and His friends.

5. What will we see?

- (1) One Who is the brightness of His Father's glory.
- (2) One Who is the express image of His Person.
- (3) One Who is the everlasting Son of the Father.
- (4) One Who is our kinsman and brother.

6. What will we learn?

- (1) The difference between His character and ours.
Our unlikeness to Him.
- (2) He is our example.
We should imitate Him.
- (3) He pleased not Himself.
- (4) He did His Father's will.
We should learn to do it.

7. When?

- (1) At the beginning of the Christian life.
- (2) In times of temptation.
- (3) In hours of difficulties.
- (4) In moments of discouragement.

- (5) In periods of need.
 - (6) In all of the experiences of life.
 - (7) In the hour of death.
- Fix your eyes of faith, trust and hope on Him.

II. Ears Listening To The Master.

"And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word." Luke 10:39.

Studious Mary was desirous of learning. She treasured every word. Martha's spirit is prevalent now. We need to imitate Mary. Hear His words again: "And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word." Luke 10:39. It is not loss of time to feed our souls.

1. Mary sat as a listener.
2. Mary heard His words.
3. Mary drank in His instructions.
4. Mary sought the favor of God.
5. Mary hungered for spiritual wisdom.
What she got could not be taken away from her.
6. Mary received His approval.

III. Hands Working For the Master.

"And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you." I Thessalonians 4:11.

Manual labor is: --

1. Honorable.
2. Wholesome.
3. Helpful.
4. Necessary.

IV. Voice Speaking To And For The Master.

"O my dove, that art in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the stairs, let me see thy countenance, let me hear thy voice; for sweet is thy voice, and thy countenance is comely." Song of Solomon 2:14.

He wants to hear our voices speaking: --

1. To Him.
 - (1) In confession.
 - (2) In thanksgiving.
 - (3) In prayer.
 - (4) In supplication.
2. For Him.
 - (1) In cheerful song.
 - (2) In joyful praise.
 - (3) In faithful testimony.

V. Arm Leaning On The Master.

"Who is this that cometh up from the wilderness, leaning upon her beloved?" Song of Solomon 8:5. This implies: --

1. The company of the Beloved.

His presence is promised. "Lo, I am with you always."

2. The support of the Beloved.

Lean on Christ for: --

- (1) Acceptance with God.
- (2) Protection from Satan.
- (3) Victory over sin.
- (4) Strength to please Him.

VI. Feet Following The Master.

"And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him."
Luke 5:11.

1. Prompt obedience.
2. Complete devotion.

VII. Heart Yielded To The Master.

"My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways. Proverbs 23:26.