

Lesson Notes:

God's Keys to Success

All of us want to be successful in life. Many link success with material wealth. God's view of success is entirely different than the world's view. Many of the most successful people on earth have died virtually penniless. Examples that come to my mind are John the Baptist and Mother Theresa. Below is a discussion of God's Plan for Success.

Scriptural Principles

- 1) In Life be sure to find the right partner –**
 - a) In **Genesis 24:12** we see that God provided a wife for Abraham's son Isaac upon the death of his mother.
 - b) Paul tells us that we need to help assure that our sons and daughters are equally yoked when it's time for marriage in 2 Corinthians 6:14. This will be a key to their future happiness and what they can accomplish in their lives for God's service.

- 2) We need to have the right priorities.**
 - a) Paul tells us that we need to desire the things of God and not the things of this world – **Colossians 1:1-3; 1 John 2:15**
 - b) Moses tells us that one way to do this is to honor God with our first fruits – **Deut. 26:1-2**
 - c) Haggai, a prophet of the Lord admonished the children of Israel for concentrating on their own provisions and not rebuilding the temple. – **Haggai 1:1-6**

- 3) Wealth does not guarantee happiness. Look at Solomon's life and what he has to say about it. - While God was with him and exalted him (2 Chronicles 1:1); Solomon came to learn that a life focused on earthly pleasures does not lead to happiness (Eccl. 2:1-8, 11).**

- 4) Paul tells us what is truly important. – In Philippians 3:12-14, 20 Paul tells us to strive for the eternal prize which is in heaven and we are citizens of heaven and not of this earth.**

- 5) The Bible does not promise Earthly riches, but tells us to lay up our treasures in heaven – Eccl. 7:14**

- 6) The secret to success is obedience to God's Word - Joshua 1:8**

- 7) Our Salvation and the Salvation of Others is what's important. – Jesus tells us this in Mark 8:36-38**