

**Devotional Thoughts :: A flower which never grew in the world's garden! by William Secker**

**A flower which never grew in the world's garden! by William Secker - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2008/11/22 5:56**

**A flower which never grew in the world's garden!**

(William Secker, "The Consistent Christian" 1660)

"I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know both how to have a little--and I know how to have a lot. In any and all circumstances, I have learned the secret of being content--whether well-fed or hungry, whether in abundance or in need. I am able to do all things through Him who strengthens me." Philippians 4:11-13

Every man has received more good--than he has deserved. He should therefore be contented, though he sees but little good. And he should not be discontented, though he suffers much evil.

"Keep your lives free from the love of money--and be content with what you have." When a wicked man's purse grows light--his heart grows heavy. When he has something without to afflict him--he has nothing within to support him.

Repenting is the act of Christian men--but repining is the act of carnal men. Though their estates are like a fruitful paradise--yet their hearts are like a barren wilderness. Such people are like those spiders--which suck poison out of the sweetest flowers--and by an infernal chemistry, extract dross from the purest gold!

Outward prosperity cannot create inward tranquility. 'Hearts-ease' is a flower which never grew in the world's garden! The ground of a wicked man's trouble, is not because he has not enough of the creature--but because he cannot find enough in the creature to satisfy him! His possession is great enough--but his disposition is not low enough.

Our worldly comforts would be a sea to drown us--if our crosses were not a plank to save us!

Contentment is the best food to preserve a sound man--and the best medicine to restore a sick man. It resembles the gill t on bitter pills, which makes a man take them--without tasting their bitterness. Contentment will make a lowly cottage--look as fair as a grand palace. He is not a poor man--who has but little; but he is a poor man--who desires much. In this sense, the poorest are often the richest--and the richest the poorest.

"Godliness with contentment is great gain." Contentment is too precious a flower to grow in every soil. Though every godly man may not always be contented--yet every truly contented man is godly. "The Lord is my shepherd--I have everything I need!" Such a Scripture will bring us plenty in scarcity; and fullness out of emptiness.

Never complain of your hard condition, Christian--so long as Jesus is your friend! Let your condition be ever so flourishing--it is a hell without Him. Let your condition be ever so fluctuating--it is a heaven with Him. Can that man truly lack anything--who enjoys Christ; or can he be said to truly enjoy anything--who is without Christ?

**Re: A flower which never grew in the world's garden! by William Secker - posted by HopeinChrist, on: 2008/11/22 6:44**

I would like to take a stack of these to some of the big shopping malls and distribute them. I went with my daughter (18) to North Lake Mall last night. As I get older I recognize the influence of such places all the more. It is all a bait if you will... ....created to grip you, to entice you, to draw you in. The whole world system is anti-God from the word go. It's not the merchandising of merchandise, it's the merchandising of men. I tried to explain this to her on the way home. I think she understood what I was saying, at least in part.

Hope

**Re: A flower which never grew in the world's garden! by William Secker - posted by MJones (), on: 2008/11/22 6:46**

Quote:

sermonindex wrote:

Can that man truly lack anything--who enjoys Christ; or can he be said to truly enjoy anything--who is without Christ?

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The last 2 years have been the hardest yet richest of my life.

Daily vs. Grand

I would never have dreamed  
when all this began  
that we'd still be waiting,  
that this was Your plan.

I had hoped to see wonders  
of which we'd proclaim.  
We'd have our own stories  
of the power in Your name.

Instead of the grand  
that so many would see,  
He had daily provision  
in store for me.

He would teach me to trust;  
more important to Him,  
He would show me a faith  
that the world could not dim.

So sweet this walk  
as daily I lean,  
I now know first hand  
what your peace can mean.

My hope has now changed  
though the grand I would take,  
give me the daily,  
and the grand I'll forsake.

**Re: A flower which never grew in the world's garden! by William Secker - posted by Lor\_E (), on: 2008/11/22 12:09**

Quote:

-----Our worldly comforts would be a sea to drown us--if our crosses were not a plank to save us!  
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Quote:

-----"The Lord is my shepherd--I have everything I need!" Such a Scripture will bring us plenty in scarcity; and fullness out of emptiness.

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*When thou sittest to eat with a ruler,  
consider diligently what is before thee;  
And put a knife to thy throat, if thou be a man given to appetite.  
Be not desirous of his dainties: for they are a deceitful meat.*

*Labour not to be rich,  
cease from thine own wisdom. Prov. 23:1-4*

*Better is a little with the fear of the LORD, than great treasure and trouble therewith.*

*Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith. Prov.5:16,17*

*Remove far from me vanity and lies;  
give me neither poverty nor riches...*

*Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for He has said, 'I will never leave thee or forsake thee'. So we may boldly say,  
'The Lord is my helper and I shall not fear what man shall do unto me.' Heb. 13:5,6*