

## Selected Rules of Archbishop Benson

- \*Not to murmur at the multitude of business or shortness of time.
- \*Not to magnify undertaken duties by seeming to suffer under them, but to treat all as liberalities and gladness.
- \*Not to call attention to trivial experiences.
- \*Before censuring anyone, obtain from God a real love for him. Be sure that you know and allow for all the allowances that can be made for him.
- \*Not to seek praise, gratitude, respect or regard from superiors or equals of age or past service.
- \*Not to feel uneasiness when your advice or opinion is not asked, or is set aside.
- \*Never let yourself be placed in favorable contrast with another.
- \*Not to hunger for conversation to turn on yourself.
- \*To bare the blame rather than share or transmit it.

The heart's fierce effort to protect itself from every slight, to shield its touchy honor from the bad opinion of friend and enemy, will never let the mind have rest.

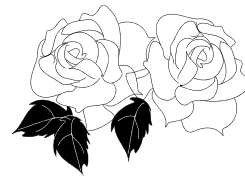


I am no longer anxious about anything . . . for He, I know, is able to carry out His will and His will is mine. It makes no matter where he places me or how. that is rather for Him to consider than for me. For the easiest positions he must give me grace, and in the most difficult, His grace is sufficient. So if God place me in great perplexity, must he not give me much guidance; in positions of great difficulty, much grace; in circumstances of great pressure and trial, much strength? . . . His resources are mine, for He mine."

~ Hudson Taylor

Worry means there is something over which we cannot have our own way, and in reality, is personal irritation with God...Never let anything push you to your wits' end, because you will get worried, and worry makes you self interested and disturbs the nourishment of the life of God...?

~Chambers



## Keys to Contentment

- Allow thyself to complain of nothing, even the weather.
- Never picture thyself under any circumstances in which thou are not.
- Never compare thine own lot with that of another.
- Never allow thyself to dwell on the wish that this or that had been, or were, otherwise than it was or is. God loves you better than you love yourself.
- Never dwell on the morrow. Remember that it is God's not thine.
- The heaviest part of sorrow often is to look forward to it.

~ E.B. Pusey

## Ministry

- Giving when you feel like keeping.
- Praying for others when you need to be prayed for.
- Feeding others when your own soul is hungry.
- Living truth before people even when you can't see the results.
- Hurting with other people even when your own hurt can't be spoken.
- Keeping your word even when it is not convenient.
- Loving others no matter what it may cost you personally.
- Being faithful when your flesh wants to run away.
- And being obedient always to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.



## The Silversmith

Some time ago a few ladies met to study the Scriptures. While reading the third chapter of Malachi, they came upon a remarkable expression in the third verse: "And He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver."

One lady decided to visit a silversmith and report to the others what he said about the subject. She went accordingly and, without telling him the reason for her visit, begged the silversmith to tell her about the process of refining silver. After he had fully described it to her, she asked, "Sir, do you sit while the work of refining is going on?"

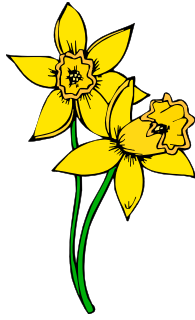
"Oh, yes ma'am," replied the silversmith, "I must sit and watch the furnace constantly, for if the time necessary for refining is exceeded in the slightest degree, the silver will be injured."

God sees it necessary to put His children into the furnace; but His eye is steadily intent on the work of purifying and His wisdom and love are both engaged in the best manner for us. Our trials do not come at random, and He will not let us be tested beyond what we can endure.

Before she left, the lady asked one final question, "How do you know when the process is complete?"

"That's quite simple," replied the silversmith. "When I can see my own image in the silver, the refining process is complete."

Ridge of the mountain wave  
 Lower thy crest.  
 Wail of the stormy wind,  
 Be thou at rest,  
 Peril, there none can be,  
 Sorrow must fly  
 Where saith the Light of Life  
 "Peace, it is I."



A big dog saw a little dog chasing its tail and asked, "Why are you chasing your tail so?" Said the puppy, "I have mastered philosophy; I have solved the problems of the universe which no dog before me has rightly solved; I have learned that the best thing for a dog is happiness, and that happiness is my tail. Therefore, I am chasing it; and when I catch it, I shall have happiness."

Said the old dog, "My son, I too, have paid attention to the problems of the universe in my weak way, and I have formed some opinions. I, too, have judged that happiness is in my tail. But I have noticed that when I chase after it, it keeps running away from me; but when I go away, my tail comes after me."

~ C.L. James

In the *Screwtape Letters*, C.S. Lewis wrote, "Men are not angered by mere misfortune but by misfortune conceived as injury, and the sense of injury depends on the feeling that a legitimate claim has been denied" He goes on to describe how Satan gains a foothold when a person believes that those things he desires and for which he longs, but is denied, were in some mysterious sense, his personal birthright.

If God has called you, do not spend time looking over your shoulder to see who is following.

~ Corrie ten Boom

God always gives His best to those who leave the choice with Him. ~ Jim Elliot

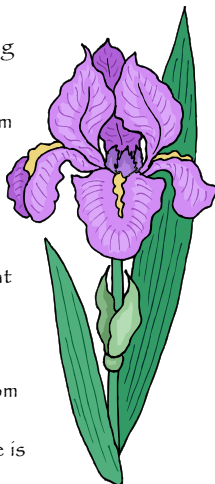
Peter said, "No, Lord!" But he had to learn that one cannot say no while saying Lord, and that one cannot say Lord while saying no.

~ Corrie ten Boom

Obedience because you understand and agree is not obedience it is willfulness.

"But how to get faith strengthened? Not by striving after faith, but by resting on the Faithful One."

~ McCarthy



## The Shoemaker's Dream

One night a cobbler dreamed that the next day Jesus was coming to visit him. The dream seemed so real that he got up very early the next morning and hurried to the woods, where he gathered green boughs to decorate his shop for the arrival of so great a Guest.

He waited all morning, but to his disappointment, his shop remained quiet, except for an old man who limped up to the door asking to come in for a few minutes of warmth, while the man was resting, the cobbler took a new pair of shoes from his shelf and saw to it that the stranger was wearing them as he went on his way.

Throughout the afternoon the cobbler waited, but his only visitor was an elderly woman. He had seen her struggling under a heavy load of firewood, and he invited her, too, into his shop to rest. Then he found that for two days she had nothing to eat; he saw to it that she had a nourishing meal before she went on her way.

As night began to fall, the cobbler heard a child crying outside his door. The child was lost and afraid. The cobbler went out, soothed the youngster's tears and, with the little hand in his, took the child home. When he returned, the cobbler was sad. He was convinced that while he had been away he had missed the visit of his Lord. Now he lived through the moments as he had imagined

## How To Be Great

Do not try to do great things you may waste all your life waiting for the opportunity which may never come. But since little things are always claiming your attention, do them as they come, from a great motive, for the glory of God, to win His smile and approval and do good to men. It is harder to plod in obscurity, acting thus than to stand on the high places of the field, within the view of all, and do seeds of valor at which rival armies stand still to gaze. But no such act goes without the swift recognition and the ultimate recompense of Christ.

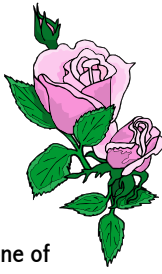
To fulfill faithfully the duties of your station; to use the uttermost the gifts of your ministry; to bear the chafing unthankful and evil; to be content to be martyrs who bore the pillory and stake; to find the one noble trait in people who try to attack you; to put the kindest construction on unkind acts and words; to love with the love of God even the unthankful and evil; to be content to be a fountain in the midst of a wild valley of stones, nourishing a few lichens and wild flowers, or now and again a thirsty sheep; and to do this always, and not for the praise of man, but for the sake of God – this makes a great life.

If God sends us on stony paths. He provides strong shoes.

## Acres of Diamonds

Once there lived an ancient Persian by the name of Ali Hafed. He owned a very large farm. He had orchards, grain-fields, and gardens; he had money at interest and was a wealthy and contented man. He was contented because he was wealthy, and wealthy because he was contented. One day there visited the old Persian farmer one of those ancient Buddhist priests, one of the wise men of the East. he sat down by the fire and told the farmer...that if he had one diamond the size of his thumb, he could purchase the country, and if he had a mine of diamonds, he could place his children upon thrones through the influence of their great wealth.

Ali Hafed heard all about diamonds, how much they were worth, and went to bed that night a poor man. He had not lost anything, but he was poor because he was discontented, and discontented because he feared he was poor. He said, "I want a mine of diamonds," and he lay awake all night. Early in the morning... he sold his farm, collected his money, left his family in the charge of a neighbor, and away he went in search of diamonds...At last when his money was all spent and he was in rags, wretchedness, and poverty, he stood on the shore of that bay at Barcelona, in Spain, when a great tidal wave came rolling in between the pillars of Hercules, and the poor, afflicted, suffering, dying man could not resist the awful temptation to cast himself into that incoming tide, and he sank beneath its foaming crest, never to rise in this life again.



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Obedience is doing no less than we are asked. Trust is doing no more than we are asked.  
~ Corrie ten Boom

Self cannot improve self, it can only add more of the same -- even if it calls the increase by a different name.

Insecurity: the result of placing my confidence or trust in people or things that can be taken away from me.

~ Dale Fesenfeld

The approval drive was intended to draw us to God. Three of it's substitutes are acceptance, status, and productivity.



I have only just a minute, only sixty seconds in it, forced upon me -- can't refuse it, didn't seek it, didn't choose it, but it's up to me to use it. I must suffer if I lose it, give account if I abuse it. Just a tiny little minute -- but eternity is in it!

It is for the high and holy purpose of conforming us to the image of Christ that the heart of the king is in the hand of the Lord.

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## Attitude

The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company...a church...a home. the remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past...we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude... I am convinced that live is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you...we are in charge of our attitudes.

~ Charles Swindoll

But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that he have suffered a while (felt pain), make you perfect (restored, complete), establish (to turn resolutely in a certain direction), strengthen (in spiritual knowledge and power), settle you (lay the foundation.)"

~ 1 Peter 5:10



5

"Depend on it. God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supplies. He is too wise a God to frustrate His purposes for lack of funds. And He can just as easily supply them ahead of time as afterwards, and He much prefers doing so."

~ Hudson Taylor

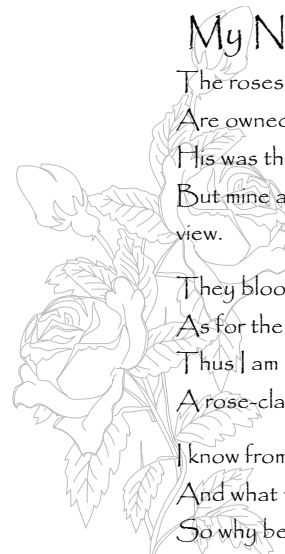
## My Neighbor's Roses

The roses red upon my neighbor's vine  
Are owned by him, but they are also mine.  
His was the cove, and his the labor, too.

But mine as well as his the joy, their loveliness to view.

They bloom for me and are for me as fair  
As for the man who gives them all his care;  
Thus I am rich because a good man grew  
A rose-clad vine for all his neighbors to view.

I know from this that others plant for me,  
And what they own my joy may also be;  
So why be selfish when so much that's fine  
Is grown for me upon my neighbor's vine?



15

## Fire Words

"O God, my words are cold:

The frosted frond of fern or feathery palm

Wrought on the whitened pane --

They are as near to fire as these my words,

Oh that they were as flames!" Thus did I cry,

And thus God answered me; "Thou shalt have words,

But at this cost, that thou must first be burnt --

Burnt by red embers from a secret fire,

Scorched by fierce hearts and withering winds that sweep.

Through all thy being, carrying thee afar

From old delights. Doth not the ardent fire,

Consume the mountains heart before the flow

Of fervent lava? Wouldst thou easefully,

As from cool, pleasant fountains, flow in fire?

Say, can thy heart endure or can thy hands be strong?

In the day that I shall deal with thee?

"First the iron must enter thine own soul,

And wound and brand it, scarring awful lives

Indelibly upon it, and a hand

Restless in tender terribleness

Must thoroughly purge it, fashioning its pain

To power that leaps in fire.

Not otherwise, and by no lighter touch,

Are fire-words wrought."

~ Amy Carmichael

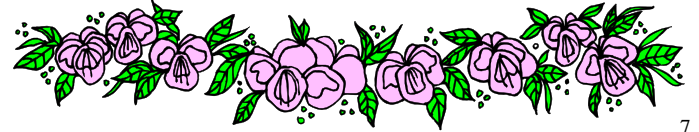


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Things to remember quietly when one's little pot of ointment seems to have been broken in vain. Of Thine own have we given Thee, for love is of God. The love, then, was offered to the human dear one -- not first but second. No pot of ointment was ever broken at His feet without giving Him some little quick sense of pleasure; so it was not all in vain. Then if it seemed to miss what we meant it to do for the one we love down here, it may be only for the moment.

The remembrance may return and be very sweet, like a fragrance. The more loving the heart is, the keener therefore the pang of disappointment when it fails, and the fiercer the inrush of depression. The heart is grieved and cannot rise to be glad. at such times, it does help to know that love cannot really be as water spilt on the ground; for it is of God. The fragrance of the ointment will yet fill the house. The one to whom we wanted to bring comfort will in the end find that which we brought. But the sweet and immediate comfort is "Of Thine own have we given Thee, Dear Lord; did it comfort Thee" ~ Carmichael

For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. ~ Matthew 16:25



7

How blest to know that he who holds  
His tools before His eyes beholds  
His own beloved one!

The cares and sorrow day by day  
The troubles that o'er shade the way  
And nothing e'er by chance befalls  
The one whom God in purpose calls  
In whom His love is found.

And when we have the glory gained  
And Christ's full image have attained,  
We'll praise His sovereign grace  
And bless the hand that dealt each blow  
Upon the marble here below  
In working out His will!



"Why should the peace of a Christian be disturbed by anything man can do. Has not God promised that all things work together for good?" ~ Stonewall Jackson

You can't backslide looking at God's face.

Each day is a gift from God! Don't forget to say, "Thank you!"

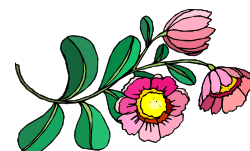
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Leave it to me, Child, leave it to Me,  
Dearer thy garden to me than to thee,  
Lift up thy heart, Child, lift up thine eyes,  
Naught can defeat Me, naught can surprise.

Leave it to me, Child, leave it to Me,  
Trust in the Wall of Fire, look up and see  
Stars in their courses shine through the night  
Both are alike to me -- darkness and light.

Leave it to me, Child, leave it to me,  
Let stop the burden too heavy for thee.  
That which I will, My Hand shall perform,  
Fair are the lilies that weather the storm.  
~ Amy Carmichael

If you are where God wants you to be --  
Doing what God wants you to do,  
Then the problems in your life  
Are sent for a specific purpose by God.



17



I am the God of the stars;  
 they do not lose their way,  
 Not one do I mislay.  
 Their times are in My Hand,  
 They move at My command.

I am the God of the stars  
 Today as yesterday,  
 The God of thee and thine,  
 Less thine they are than Mine;  
 And shall mine go astray?

I am the God of the stars,  
 Lift up thine eyes and see  
 As far as mortal may  
 Into Eternity;  
 And stay thy heart on Me.



God doesn't want our success, he wants us. He doesn't demand achievements, He demands obedience . . . For through the ugly defeat of the cross, a holy God is utterly glorified. Victory comes through brokenness and finding one's self comes through losing one's self.

~Charles Colson

I am here in the room with you; I am nearer than these beckoning, calling things. I come between them and you. You have nothing to do now, but to please Me. . . you echo the simple words as a young child might, "I have nothing to do, now, but to please Thee. And Thou art not hard to please."

~ Amy Carmichael

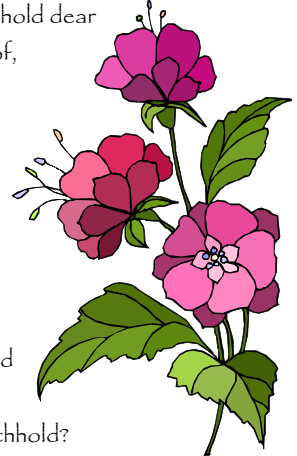
## And shall I fear

That there is anything that men hold dear  
 That thou would'st deprive me of,  
 And nothing give in place?

That is not so--  
 For I can see Thee now:

"My child, I died for thee,  
 And if the gift of love and life  
 You took from Me,  
 Shall I one precious thing withhold  
 One beautiful and bright  
 One pure and precious thing withhold?  
 My child, it cannot be."

~ Betty Stam



## Don't Tell Me

Don't tell me what your will do  
 When you have time to spare;  
 Tell me what you did today  
 To ease a load of care.  
 Don't tell me what you will give  
 When your ship comes in from the sea  
 Tell me what you gave today  
 A fettered soul to free.  
 Don't tell the dreams you have  
 Of conquest still afar;  
 Don't say what you hope to be  
 But tell me what you are.

How great a God we have! Our  
 God is so much greater than our  
 greatest need.

Let my heart be broken with the  
 things that break the heart of God.



How blest to know that he who holds  
 His tools before His eyes beholds  
 His own beloved one!  
 The cares and sorrow day by day  
 The troubles that o'er shade the way  
 And nothing e'er by chance befalls  
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Each day is a gift from God! Don't forget to say, "Thank you!"

Love:  
 the sustained direction of your heart toward another's good.

