**When We Walk With The Lord**

*“When we walk with the Lord in the light of His word, what a glory He sheds on our way!”* – John H. Sammis, 1887, “Trust and Obey”

**Introduction**

1. Walking with the Lord can be difficult and troublesome at times – **cf. Matthew 7:13-14** (Narrow and difficult path); **cf. 2 Timothy 3:12** (Godly will suffer persecution).
2. However, the Bible clearly indicates that a life lived walking with the Lord comes with great benefits.
3. The greatest benefit is the reward in the end, but during our life lived on earth God sheds glory on our way as we strive for heaven. (**cf. 1 Timothy 4:8** – *godliness profitable for the life that now is, and that to come.*)
4. Let us considers some benefits which come **When We Walk With The Lord**.
5. When We Walk With The Lord
6. We have a plan for life.
   1. Many struggle to know where they want to go in life, and what they want to do.
   2. Most aren’t able to give a good answer to the question of life in general.
   3. **Christians do not have these problems.**
   4. **Ecclesiastes 12:13** – Christians are those who, through faith in God, subscribe to the inspired wisdom of Solomon as he reached the conclusion of life’s purpose.
      1. **In all his searching, Solomon did not find one thing save service to God that fulfilled his life**.
      2. All things, even those which are good and fulfilling to a degree, fail to prove to be the ultimate purpose of life.
      3. *After coming to an understanding of the purpose of life, Christians then have a guidebook. 🡪*
   5. **2 Timothy 3:16-17** – Christians have a guide book for their life.
      1. **This is better than any other source of information we can acquire – it is GOD BREATHED, AND AS SUCH, THOUROUGHLY EQUIPPING.**
      2. *If we wish to learn about how to live* – **DOCTRINE**.
      3. *If we wished someone would tell us we are doing wrong, or being unwise* – **REPROOF**.
      4. *If after being reproved, we wish someone would tell us how to do better* – **CORRECTION**.
      5. *If we want to always have a source of information for right living* – **INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS**.
7. We have an Advocate for life.
   1. As indicated in the introduction, this life is not always easy, and adversity is promised us by God, as well as temptation to stray from the plan given by God.
   2. **However, Christians do not walk with the Lord alone.**
   3. **1 John 2:1-2** – Jesus is our Advocate in life.
      1. Jesus intercedes for us before God.
      2. **He died for our sins so we could live in Him, and He is always there to help us if we turn to Him.**
   4. **Hebrews 2:14-18; 4:15-16** – Jesus left heaven and lived on earth as a man. Having suffered, and resisted temptation He gives us aid unlike any other!
      1. In any walk of life there will be people who serve as helpers. However, none are perfect in any way.
      2. **Christians have One who has been through it all, and came out the other side perfect.**
      3. **Cf. 12:1-2** – He endured in life, and made it to the finish line, and we can look to Him for help!
      4. He is our great ***“Counselor” (Isaiah 9:6).***
   5. **As we follow the plan God has given us successfully with the aid from Jesus, we will realize that we avoid much trouble that would come otherwise. 🡪**
8. We avoid much trouble.
   1. **The greater part of the profit received in the life that now is when we live godly lives has to do with the troubles we avoid by living righteously as opposed to wickedly.**
   2. **Psalm 34:8-14** – Those who fear God, and follow His will are provided for by Him, and will ***“love many days”*** and ***“see good.”***
      1. Peter quotes from this Psalm in **1 Peter 3:10-12** to show the good days the man who lives righteously will receive in eternity.
      2. **However, while this certainly has a greater spiritual application, it also has a physical application.**
   3. **Proverbs 23:19-21, 29-35** – consider the destructive nature of alcohol, and all the problems it causes.
      1. The Christian does ***“not [even] look on the wine”*** because he knows it is prohibited from God.
      2. **By following God’s instruction to abstain from alcohol, the Christian avoids much trouble.**
      3. ***“Wine is a mocker, strong drink is a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise” (Proverbs 20:1).***
9. We have the hope of heaven.
   1. **Romans 5:1-5** – Christians a constantly a joyous people because of the hope of heaven they have.
      1. **They can continue through life in a joyous way even during tribulation, knowing that it shapes them toward a life lived that will inherit heaven.**
      2. This hope does not disappoint – it will be fulfilled, and realized.
   2. **Romans 8:5-6** – We have hope because we live a spiritual life – we are concerned with spiritual things, and live for them.
      1. This spiritually minded life – walking with God – gives us hope, and subsequently, peace.
      2. This peace is related to the life – spiritual – peace between God and man.
      3. **However, because of that peace between us and God that is spiritual life, WE HAVE PEACE OF MIND.**
      4. Out of all the things in this life that seem unsure, and unstable, the hope we have of heaven is ***“sure and steadfast” (Hebrews 6:19)***.
      5. **We can rest our head on the pillow at night knowing we have a hope of a better, eternal life with God.**
   3. **2 Timothy 4:6-8** – Paul was nearing the end of his life – death for the cause of Christ – but was full of optimism. Full of hope.
10. **When we walk with the Lord we uncover a multitude of blessings in the life that now is. GOD SHEDS GLORY ON OUR WAY. Most importantly, we have an eternal glory and reward promised us in the end.**

**Conclusion**

1. While living for Christ has its difficulties, and most of the world thinks the life of a Christian is undesirable, the Bible suggests walking with the Lord has great benefit.
2. **If you have not yet begun to walk with God, you should greatly consider the benefits of doing so – especially the eternal benefit of life in heaven with God.**