

## THE TWELVE RICHES OF LIFE

### 1. A POSITIVE MENTAL ATTITUDE

All riches, of whatever nature, begin as a state of mind, the one and only thing over which any person has complete, unchallenged right of control. It is highly significant that the Creator provided man with control over nothing except the power to shape his own thoughts and the privilege of fitting them to any pattern of his choice.

Mental attitude is important because it converts the brains into the equivalent of an electro-magnet which attracts the counterpart of one's dominating thoughts, aims and purposes. It also attracts the counterpart of one's fears, worries and doubts. A positive mental attitude (PMA) is the starting point of all riches, whether they be riches of a material nature or intangible riches.

### 2. SOUND PHYSICAL HEALTH

Sound health begins with a "health consciousness" produced by a mind which thinks in terms of health and not in terms of illness, plus temperance of habits in eating and properly balanced physical activities.

### 3. HARMONY IN HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS

Harmony with others begins with one's self, for it is true, as Shakespeare said, there are benefits available to those who comply with his admonitions, "To thine own self be true, and it must follow, as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man."

### 4. FREEDOM FROM FEAR

No man who fears anything is a free man! Fear is a harbinger of evil, and wherever it appears one may find a cause which must be eliminated before he may become rich in the fuller sense. The seven basic fears which most often appear in the minds of men are the fear of poverty, fear of criticism, fear of ill health, fear of loss of love, fear of the loss of liberty, fear of old age and the fear of death.

### 5. THE HOPE OF ACHIEVEMENT

The greatest of all forms of happiness comes as the result of hope of achievement of some yet unattained desire. Poor beyond description is the person who cannot look to the future with hope that he will become the person he would like to be, or with the belief that he will attain the objective he has failed to reach in the past.

### 6. THE CAPACITY FOR FAITH

Faith is the connecting link between the conscious mind of man and the great universal reservoir of Infinite Intelligence. It is the fertile soil of the garden of the human mind wherein may be produced all of the riches of life. It is the "eternal elixir" which gives creative power and action to the impulses of thought.

## **7. WILLINGNESS TO SHARE ONE'S BLESSINGS**

He who has not learned the blessed art of sharing has not learned the true path of happiness, for happiness comes only by sharing. And let it be forever remembered that all riches may be embellished and multiplied by the simple process of sharing them where they may serve others and the space one occupies in the hearts of his fellowmen is determined precisely by the service he renders through the form of sharing.

## **8. A LABOR OF LOVE**

There can be no richer man than he who has found a labor of love and who is busily engaged in performing it, for labor is the highest form of human expression of desire. Labor is the liaison between the demand and the supply of all human needs, the forerunner of all human progress, the medium by which the imagination of man is given the wings of action. And all labor of love is sanctified because it brings the joy of self-expression to him who performs it.

## **9. AN OPEN MIND ON ALL SUBJECTS**

Tolerance, which is among the higher of culture, is expressed only by the person who holds an open mind on all subjects at all times. And it is only the man with an open mind who becomes truly educated and who is thus prepared to avail himself of the greater riches of life.

## **10. SELF DISCIPLINE**

The man who is not the master of himself may never become the master of anything. He who is master of self may become the master of his own earthly destiny, the "master of his fate, the captain of his soul". And the highest form of self-discipline consists in the expression of humility of the heart when one has attained great riches or has been overtaken by that which commonly called "success".

## **11. THE CAPACITY TO UNDERSTAND PEOPLE**

The man who is rich in the understanding of people always recognizes that all people are fundamentally alike, in that they evolved from the same stem; that human activities are inspired by one of the nine basic motives of life namely the emotion of love, sex, the desire for material gains, self-preservation, freedom of body and mind, self expression, for perpetuation of life after death, the emotion of anger and fear. And the man who understands others must first understand himself. The capacity to understand others eliminates much of the friction among men. It is the foundation of all friendship. It is the fundamental of major importance in all leadership which calls for friendly cooperation.

## **12. ECONOMIC SECURITY**

The last, though not the least in importance, is the tangible portion of the "Twelve Riches". Economic Security is not attained by the possession of money alone. It is attained by the service one renders, for useful service may be converted into all forms of human needs, with or without the use of money.