

Will Negativism Be Your Legacy

Written by CA Burcham

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Have you ever noticed that some people know all the reasons why something will not work, no matter what the suggestion might be? Some people will know only bad things about some person who might be mentioned in conversation. People who have a personality colored by such feelings of negativism are generally grumpy and miserable. It often seems their only happiness comes from coercing you to agree with them. I surmise, the old axiom "misery loves company" may have originated from such observation. Much joy and constructive pursuit is overlooked by the individual with this distorted approach to the available and helpful considerations of this life.

It is undeniably true that obedience to the will of God requires a restraining directive. Such need is provided by the Bible's "thou shalt not's". Brother Paul admonished the Romans, "...be NOT conformed to this world" (Rom. 12:2). He enumerated to the Galatians some works of the flesh and said, "they which do such things shall NOT inherit the kingdom of God." (Gal. 5:21). However, it should also be noted and remembered that the Lord wants a positive and happy outlook to promote our usefulness. Paul's confidence is evident in such statements as "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Phil 4:13). He had also instructed the Philippians to "Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, rejoice." (Phil. 4:4).

When one permits self to consider the multitude of blessings provided by a loving God to us His creation, surely one's gratitude will break out into cheerfulness, well-doing and love for God and for one's fellow man.

(Negativism = an attitude of mind marked by skepticism, especially about nearly everything affirmed by others. {Mirriam-Webster's Dictionary})