

Quotes on Rewards

by

Richard Baxter

He who knoweth that he serveth a God that will never suffer any man to be a loser by him, need not fear what hazards he runs in his cause: and he who knows that he seeks a prize, which, if obtained, will infinitely overbalance his cost, may boldly engage his whole estate on it, and sell all to purchase so rich a pearl.

This neglect of ourselves through the Love of God, is consequentially the most provident securing of our selves... But if we be Nothing in ourselves, and God be All to us, in him we shall be something... He will *Reward*, if you'll obey.

If you would prepare for a comfortable death, and a great and glorious reward, the harvest is before you. Gird up the loins of your minds, and quit yourselves like men, that you may end your days with these triumphant words: 'I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give unto me in that day.' If you would be blessed with those that die in the Lord, labour now, that you may rest from your labours then, and do such works as you would wish should follow you, and not such as will prove your terror in the review.

So exceedingly great are the matters of eternity that nothing in this world deserveth once to be named in comparison with them; nor can any earthly thing, though it were life, or crowns, or kingdoms, be a reasonable excuse for the neglect of matters of such high and everlasting consequence.

You must be sure that you lay up your treasure in heaven: That you are so convinced by Faith of the Glory to come, and of the true felicity that consisteth in the fruition of God as that you take it for your Portion, and make it your very End. And when once you have laid up your Hopes in heaven, and see that there or no where you must be happy, this will

presently teach you to judge of all things else as they either help or hinder the attainment of that end.

O that men knew how sure and near a way it is to their felicity, to be contented to be Nothing that God may be all; and then they would be more in God than they could have been in themselves: and to be contented to Die, that they may Live in God; and to lose their lives that they may find them in him. Let go your Reputation with men, and you will find it made up a thousand-fold in the approbation of God. Let men condemn you, so that God may but justify you! Let Riches go, and see whether you will not find more in God, than you could possibly lose for him. Can any man be a loser by God? or can he make an ill bargain that makes sure of Heaven?

The holy self-denying soul desireth no glory and honour, but what may conduce to the glory and honour of his Lord: His heart riseth against base flattering worldlings, that would rob God and give the honour to him: nor can they do him a greater displeasure than to ascribe that to him belongeth only to God, or to bring to him or any Creature, his Makers due. If God be honoured, he takes himself as honoured, if he be never so low: If God be dishonoured, he is troubled, and his own honour will not make him reparation. As he liveth himself to the glory of God, and doth all that he doth in the world to that end; so would he have others do so too: And if God be most honoured by his disgrace and shame, he can submit.