

Life Lessons

“Do You Dare to Look within?”

God has a select plan for those who dare to look within. The rare, bold, and adventuresome soul who does not shrink for the chance to examine self will always be the greatest servant of God. Consider the life of Andrew Bonar (1810 – 1892). During a critical time in Scotland’s history, Bonar held up the truth of God and built a people of great faith.

As you read *The Diary and Life of Andrew Bonar* you will be moved by the frequency with which this great man of God continuously searched his heart and life for the need and opportunity of greater growth. Listen to some of the more moving entries.

- Writing his brother Horace while seeking real revival in his church, Bonar wrote, *“Pray for Collace. We have no more than a few drops (of revival showers) as yet, and I believe I am to blame. I work more than I pray.”*
- Later he added, *“I was living very grossly, namely, laboring night and day in visiting with very little prayerfulness. I did not see that prayer should be the main business of every day.”*
- Once again he reflected, *“I see that prayerlessness is one of my great sins of omission. I am too short (in prayer), ask too little, and ask with too much want of forethought. Then, too little meditation upon scripture.”*
- And again, *“Tried this morning specially to pray against idols in the shape of my books and studies. These encroach upon my direct communion with God and need to be watched.”*
- And once more, *“I distinctly see now that Satan’s chief way of prevailing against me is by throwing in my way a great deal of half literary work, half biblical.”*

Before you conclude something must, in fact, is missing in his life, remember he was a constant soul-winner, a passionate preacher, a conference leader frequently sought from across the ocean by the likes of D.L. Moody and others, and a best-selling Christian author whose works are still in print.

One thing is clear...

He who dares to look within first is sure to soar to the greatest growth, greatest power, greatest fruitfulness, and greatest heights in the kingdom of God.