

# *Life Lessons*

## *“Real Surrender”*

David Brainerd never saw his thirtieth birthday (1718 – 1747). Nevertheless, he is considered by many to be one of the greatest heroes of the faith. The godly giant Robert Murray McCheyne often drew wisdom and grace from the devotional classic *The Life and Diary of David Brainerd*. Had he lived long enough Brainerd would have become the son-in-law of the Father of the Great Awakening in America – Jonathan Edwards. Brainerd died at twenty-nine in a snow bank coughing up bloody portions of tuberculosis ridden lungs. Meditate on these words from his diary:

“I wanted not the favor of man to lean upon;  
for  
**I knew Christ’s favor was infinitely better,**  
and that it was  
no matter when,  
no matter where,  
no matter how  
Christ should send me,  
nor what trials He should exercise me with,  
if I might be prepared for His work and will.”

Brainerd wrote these words in his spiritual diary for Monday April 12 (the form is added for emphasis). Brainerd’s life was lived with gross physical weakness and multiplied personal hardships, yet he traveled thousands of miles on horseback sharing Christ with Native American Indians. He wrote these words as he meditated upon Psalm 42:5.

**Why art thou cast down, O my soul?  
And why art thou disquieted in me?  
Hope thou in God:  
For I shall yet praise Him  
For the help of His countenance.**

What is it worth to know the LORD has turned His face toward you? What strength, peace, and joy should flourish within knowing that His eye is on you, His ear is toward you, His heart is open to you? How quickly do you allow someone, something, or some situation to cause you to give away the blessing of your strength, peace, and joy?

Ask yourself, **“Is Christ’s favor enough for me or must I also have the circumstances of life moving in my direction to enjoy this day as a blessing?”**

**IS CHRIST ENOUGH FOR YOU TODAY?**