

# *Life Lessons*

## **“Has God Made a Mistake?”**

Solomon wrote: “*He that walks with the wise shall be wise*” (Prov. 13:20). **Be honest now, have you ever thought to yourself...**

### **“GOD, HAVE YOU MADE A MISTAKE?”**

**In just the same way a master chef mixes together all manner of bitter and sweet ingredients to prepare a delicacy, so God mixes together all the circumstances of life (Romans 8:28) to endow us with the potential of significant service for Christ.**

**Consider the story of W. Robertson Nicoll.** I know... your first response is “*WHO?*” The very fact you have never heard of W. Robertson Nicoll is a huge *Life Lesson* in itself. Nicoll is non-other than the greatest English speaking journalist of all time and yet most have never heard of him. Need anything else be said to prove the point that **celebrity and significance are not synonymous!**

Nicoll averaged reading two books a day, edited a weekly journal and three monthly magazines. He edited the fifty volumes of *The Expositor’s Bible* and *The Expositor’s Greek New Testament*, managed to write forty books himself, and served as the literary agent for the greatest Christian authors and scholars of his day (1851-1923). So profound was his impact on the world that the Queen of England knighted him and yet he did all this without a palm pilot, a PC or a laptop computer!

**Now for the clincher... Nicoll wrote of himself, “I never contemplated a literary career.”** Well, how did the greatest English speaking Christian journalist become such without “*ever contemplating a literary career.*” That’s where God comes in.

Nicoll’s father was the pastor of a small church in Scotland but had the largest personal library of any pastor in Scotland – over 17,000 volumes. W. Robertson Nicoll’s mother died when he was only eight and he also was plagued with poor health. He simply did not have physical strength for a lifetime of ongoing demands of the pastorate. So, **God mixed up together his love for the Lord, his love for the written word, and his lifetime of sickness to create the greatest Christian journalist of all time.** Some may say, “*Imagine what he could have done had he been healthy!*” But that is just the point. Nicoll could have never lived the life of significance

he lived had he not lived the life of suffering he lived. The key to significance is not what happens to you but what you do with what happens to you.

**He who surrenders himself or herself to the Lord in the midst of suffering – great or small – is the one who will uncover the sufficiency of God and unleash the significance of great service.**

### **GOD SIMPLY DOES NOT MAKE MISTAKES!**

He may not have caused what has happened to you but He has allowed it to reach your life laced with the potential of making you great. So, will you let Him light a candle in your life or will you curse the darkness?