**Mastering Life Before It’s Too Late**

Biblical Strategies for a Lifetime of Purpose

Robert J. Morgan

**Introduction:** Over the decades and from a lifetime of Bible study, I’ve extrapolated ten lessons that have made all the difference to me. I’ve tested them in the tumblers of time. These are lifelong rhythms for lifetime usefulness—the godly patterns of productive souls. According to Scripture, our days are not accidental or incidental. We are not random or rudderless souls. We have a heavenly Father who orders our steps and ordains our stops; who ordains our times and assigns our tasks. He has a pre-planned agenda for us, and that agenda is revealed in one-day units. The key to purpose and productivity is finding and doing God’s divinely-anointed tasks a day at a time over the course of years.

* Psalm 139:16
* Ephesians 2:10
* Hebrews 13:20-21

**1. Listen to a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

* Luke 2:41-49
* John 17:1-4
* Ephesians 2:10
* Mark 13:34
* 1 Corinthians 3:5
* Acts 20:24
* Colossians 4:17

John Maxwell: The secret of your success is determined by your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the Time**

* Psalm 90:1-12
* Ephesians 5:8-20
* Titus 3:14

The Three Biggest Time-Wasters

A.

B.

C.

The Two Biggest Time-Savers

A.

B.

**3. Clear the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

* God is a God of Organization
  + Creation
  + Israelites
  + Church
  + Angels
  + Godhead
* 1 Corinthians 14:33 & 40
* Don’t be listless
* What does this mean to me? What one area…? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Maximize the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

* Presidential Daily Briefing
* Psalm 5:3
* Isaiah 50:4
* Mark 1:35
* Matthew 6:6
* Psalm 143:8
* The morning secret of successful people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* The 15-minute plan

**5. Pull off at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

* Psalm 127:2
* Who said: “Get some rest”?
* The two “comes” of Christ
  + Mark 6:31
  + Matthew 11:28-29
* *Rest is not a sedative for the sick but a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the strong—*Mrs. Charles M. Cowman in *Springs in the Valley*
* Acts 20:28
* Only do what \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

**6. Learn to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on Yourself**

* Dr. Evan O’Neill Kane
  + 1 Samuel 23:16
  + 1 Samuel 30:6
  + Psalm 42 – The art of “preaching to yourself” is largely the discipline of Bible \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. How do we do that?
    - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Live \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_**

* Theodore Roosevelt
* Ephesians 6:7
* 1 Corinthians 7:29-31
* This means we live according to invisible realities
  + Hebrews 11:27
  + Proverbs 23:7 (NKJV)

**8. Bathe in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

* Nehemiah 8:10
* Psalm 100
* Romans 15:13
* Psalm 92
* Proverbs 15:15
* Psalm 118:24
* **What is Executive Joy!**

**9. Practice the Power of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

* Ezra 4:24 – 5:2 / Haggai 2:1-4
* Patient plodding produces durable results
* Success is not a matter of size but service

**10. Remember There Are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of You**

* Galatians 2:20
* God’s arithmetic: From + to x = a harvest of righteousness
* The “Thin Man”

**Master Life the Master’s Way**

God has placed you on earth for a special set of tasks, which He has prepared in advance for you to do. Whatever our vocation or status in life, true fulfillment is found when we determine to be about our Father’s business, wherever we are, today. As we redeem the time and seek to seize every opportunity, as we organize our lives for effectiveness and maximize the mornings for efficiency, as we take heed to ourselves, strengthen ourselves in the Lord, as we live by faith and relish the joy of the Lord, as we persevere and plod until we can say “I have finished the work….”

When we truly view our lifespans in this way, it repels discouragement. Scripture assures us the Lord does His work through us whether the tasks are big or little, whether the audience is large or small, whether the recognition comes or not, whether the results seem abundant or meager. Somehow as we add one day to the next and accomplish one task after another, He gives the plus sign a quarter-turn, and all remaining history will multiply the legacy of our lives. Every deed will compound with the ages, and every word will exponentially increase until, at the dawning of eternity, we’ll discover what the Bible writers called “a harvest of righteousness” that far exceeds anything we could ask or imagine (James 3:18; Hebrews 12:11; 2 Corinthians 9:10). When we crunch the numbers in heaven, we’ll see they had a way of compounding with interest until the exponential results can only be calculated by the angelic bookkeepers.

--From *Mastering Life Before Its Too Late*

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