

is that personal limitations in themselves are not sinful and bad and to be cursed. Some have treated them that way. I am not saying we should pray for more but I am saying that we must learn to see them as "disciplines" of life that tend to keep us in our proper place and make us more useful. Of course we must not become lazy and justify every failure on a "limitations of life" basis, but we should not be fretful and resentful about them either.

B. Discussion

1. Limitations...what are they? In this discussion, the personal limitations represent the end of your energies or abilities to accomplish a particular goal. I am not suggesting that we work our fingers to the bone and then turn it over to God....I speak of abilities already used in accord with the will and direction of God. But suddenly you are out of these and the desired end is still ahead of you. Physical fatigue, peculiar workings of nature, circumstance of emotion...all may be personal limitations.

2. Limitations...how do they express themselves? Generally they thwart us in the pursuit of a good and useful end. They may express themselves in the areas of fatigue, etc., mentioned above. They may express themselves in the reactions of others who have heard us and will not listen. It is sometimes hard to discern when a genuine limitation is at hand and when you are just tired. We will try to orally clarify that...but in some cases the tiredness may be the limitation in itself.

3. Limitations...how and what do they teach us? Actually they should teach us first to be what we are--thankfully--and not try to be something or somebody else. They should teach us to dedicate our lives as we know them and have them used to the Lord's glory in accord with gift and skill. They do not mean we cannot improve...but it is hard to improve if we are not first thankful for what the Lord has blessed us with. Following this, they