

Coveting His Control

*This is the Lord's doing;
It is marvelous in our eyes. (Psalm 118:23, NASB)*

During my forty years in Christian publishing, I have experienced lots of ups and downs, lots of seeming “successes” and seeming “failures”. It has often been an agonizing process.

The most valuable lesson I've learned is not a “lesson” at all, but an experience. I have experienced what God can do when He is in control, when He calls every shot. And having experienced that, I never want it any other way. I am determined not to settle for anything less than His complete control over every task I face.

You don't have to settle for anything less either. You don't have to make your own way in this world and just hope for the best. As a child of God and as His Spirit-filled servant, you can walk in the confidence that He will always give you all the guidance you will trust Him for.

Yes, it will involve discouragements, setbacks, lots of waiting, and some seemingly blind alleys. The successes will sometimes masquerade as failures, and vice-versa. Just read the stories of His servants in the Bible.

But God is God, and He is willing to be God in every area of your life, from the routine to the large. And once you've experienced His marvelous leadership, you won't want it any other way.

Over the years I've gradually realized that I had shut Him out of some areas of my life. I guess I didn't really believe He would get involved, so I just wasn't listening. I've found that the physical noise around us isn't what blocks His voice – He usually doesn't speak audibly anyway. He speaks to our minds and hearts. That's where the “noise” drowns Him out. The deafening roar is that of our own desires and plans. Our hearts and minds are focused on our own intentions, on working things out our way, and not on Him and His direction. If we want to hear His guidance, we must quiet our hearts, release our own plans, and look to Him for His will.

And He will lead. He always wants the very best for us, and He is always present, ready to give it. It's great to find that we can relax in His presence. You won't need to strain to hear Him – He knows how to speak so that you will hear. Just hold loosely to your own plans and learn to look to Him in everything.

Hymn: [Thank You for Your Perfect Will](#)