

*“Aligned with God’s Priorities”*

## Psalm 90:10,12

As for the days of our life, they contain seventy  
years, Or if due to strength, eighty years,  
Yet their pride is but labor and sorrow;  
For soon it is gone and we fly away.  
*So teach us to number our days,  
That we may present to You a heart of wisdom.*

“Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we  
may grow in wisdom” (NLT)

## **Ecclesiastes 7:2**

It is better to go to a house of mourning  
Than to go to a house of feasting,  
Because that is the end of every man,  
And the living takes it to heart.

*“Complacency is a blight that saps energy, dulls attitudes, and causes a drain on the brain. The first symptom is satisfaction with things as they are. The second is rejection of things as they might be. ‘Good enough’ becomes today’s watchword and tomorrow’s standard. Complacency makes people fear the unknown, mistrust the untried, and abhor the new. Like water, complacent people follow the easiest course -- downhill. They draw false strength from looking back.”*

# I. Complacency is a Misalignment of Priorities

## *A. Misalignment Defined*

*“the incorrect arrangement or position of something in relation to something else.”*



# I. Complacency is a Misalignment of Priorities

*A. Misalignment Defined*

*B. Priorities of Average American Believer*

I lived in Germany during the Nazi Holocaust. I considered myself a Christian. We heard stories of what was happening to the Jews, but we tried to distance ourselves from it, because what could anyone do to stop it? A railroad track ran behind our small church, and each Sunday morning we could hear the whistle in the distance and then the wheels coming over the tracks. We became disturbed when we heard the cries coming from the train as it passed by. We realized that it was carrying Jews like cattle in the cars! Week after week the whistle would blow. We dreaded to hear the sound of those wheels because we knew that we would hear the cries of the Jews en route to a death camp.



Their screams tormented us. We knew the time the train was coming, and when we heard the whistle blow we began singing hymns. By the time the train came past our church, we were singing at the top of our voices. If we heard the screams, we sang more loudly and soon we heard them no more. Years have passed, and no one talks about it anymore. But I still hear that train whistle in my sleep. God forgive me; forgive all of us who called ourselves Christians yet did nothing to intervene.

# **I. Complacency is a Misalignment of Priorities**

***A. Misalignment Defined***

***B. Priorities of Average American Believer***

# **II. God's Priorities for Our Lives**

***A. Believe in the Lord Jesus***

***B. Live as a Citizen of Heaven***

*God' wants us to live as a citizen of heaven by  
seeking to please our King through  
a life of faith and obedience.*

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***1. Focus on Pleasing the Lord***

## **Ephesians 5:8-10**

for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light (for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth), trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.

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***1. Focus on Pleasing the Lord***

***2. Life of Obedience***

## **Matthew 7:21**

Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.

## **Luke 6:46**

Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?

## **Ephesians 5:15-17**

Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. So then do not be foolish, but *understand what the will of the Lord is.*



## **2 Timothy 2:15**

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.

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***3. Life of Faith***

## **Hebrews 11:6**

And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

*“All God's giants have been weak men who did great things for God because they reckoned on God being with them.” - Hudson Taylor*

**"Yoga Poseurs: Athletic Gear Soars,  
Outpacing Sport Itself"**

*Poseur - a person who pretends to be what he or  
she is not : an insincere person*

*"Why work out when you can just buy the clothes and look like you did?"*

“The U.S. athletic apparel market will increase by nearly 50 percent to more than \$100 billion at retail by 2020, driven in large part by consumers snapping up stretchy tees and leggings that will never see the fluorescent lights of a gym.”

"When you put on your workout apparel, you think, 'Huh, maybe I should think about working out today.' "



*Are we Christian “Poseurs”?*

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***2. Life of Obedience***

***3. Life of Faith***

# **III. Re-Aligning our Priorities**

***A. Honest, Realistic Appraisal of our Lives***

“Like water, complacent people follow the easiest course – downhill. They draw false strength from looking back.”

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# **III. Re-Aligning our Priorities**

***A. Honest, Realistic Appraisal of our Lives***

***B. Recommit to Living as a Citizen of Heaven***

*Suddenly out of the night came the sound of wild geese flying. I ran to the house and breathlessly announced the excitement I felt. What is to compare with wild geese across the moon? It might have ended there except for the sight of our tame mallards on the pond. They heard the wild call they had once known. The honking out of the night sent little arrows of prompting deep into their wild yesterdays. Their wings fluttered a feeble response. The urge to fly--to take their place in the sky for which God made them-- was sounding in their feathered breasts, but they never raised from the water. The matter had been settled long ago. The corn of the barnyard was too tempting! Now their desire to fly only made them uncomfortable.*

(Ronald Meredith, Hurryin' Big For Little Reasons)

*Temptation is always enjoyed at the price of  
losing the capacity for flight.*

