

## How To Have a “Good Day”

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Read 1 Peter 3:10-17 (text v. 10)

One of the most often used cliches we hear today is: “Have a good/nice day,” or, “Have a blessed day.” It is said as though *the person saying it has the power to make your day good or blessed*. I’ve said it or written it thousands of times myself without thinking. We say it because we want to sound “nice.”

People don’t have a “good day” simply by wishing it on someone. If you want to have a “good day,” the Bible tells you how you can have one, that is, if the Lord wants you to have a “good day.” You will have days of trouble, suffering, sadness, and distress, no matter what you do (vs. 14, 17 cf. 2 Kings 19:3; Zeph. 1:15).

Did Job have a “good day” when he lost all his possessions, wealth, and all ten of his children on a single day (cf. Job 9:25)? On the heels of that, he lost his health when he was smitten with boils from the top of his head to the bottom of his feet. Even his wife recognized this was not a good day. But Job answered her, **“What” shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips**” (Job 2:10).

The truth is, God sends or allows calamities and catastrophes to come into our lives (Hag. 1:9-11; Jer. 7:20, 23:19; Nah. 1:3).

Each of us help make the environment we live in (Dt. 33:25). So, Peter gives us **five things that go into making for an environment of a “good day.”**

**I. Your CONVERSATION** (v. 10— *“He that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile”* cf. Ps. 34:12-13).

- What you say will have a lot to do with the kind of day you are going to have. Proverbs 21:23—*“Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles.”*
- Your conversation with your wife, children, co-workers. *“Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have”* (Heb. 13:5).

**II. Your CONDUCT** (v. 11—*Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.*).

- How you live has a lot to do with what kind of day you are going to have. Your *CONDUCT* can ruin your day.

➡ Negative: “*eschew*” (depart / shun) evil

➡ Positive: “*ensue*” (pursue) doing right and living peaceably (i.e. personal peace – Rom. 12:18).

- A. Sin brings trouble (Josh. 7:25; 1 Kings 18:17-18; Prov. 11:17, 29; 15:27). What kind of day do you think Adam and Eve had after they sinned? Sin always complicates life.
- B. You don’t have to worry about the cops coming to your door if you are living right. You don’t have to keep looking in your rear-view mirror if you are driving the speed limit. A ticket will spoil your whole day.

**III. Your CONSCIOUSNESS** (v. 12—*For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers:*).

- A. A consciousness that God is LOOKING after you (v. 12). God is focused in upon His people.

- B. A consciousness that God is LISTENING to you (v. 12).

➡ Sin will “short-circuit” your prayer line to God (Isa. 59:2).

**IV. Your CONSECRATION** (read verses 13-15).

- We live in a hostile environment. This world is filled with animosity against Christ. Yet, Jesus comforts us in this unfriendly environment.

- A. We need not be TERRIFIED (v. 14 cf. John 14:1, 27). You may have trouble without, but don’t allow it to trouble you within.

➡ Have a good attitude that is independent of circumstances. (vs. 13-14 cf. John 16:33). Psalms 118:24—*This is the day which the LORD hath made; **we will** rejoice and be glad in it.*

➡ “*Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts*”—This is giving the Lord control of *you*—Bring God into *everything* you do.

B. We need not be TIMID (v. 15). The world should not intimidate the believer who has studied his Bible. He is *ready* and has a *reason*.

➡ The most likely time you will be asked to give account for your “hope” is when you are going through a trial of suffering (cf. v. 14; 4:16).

#### V. **Your CONSCIENCE** (read verses 16-17).

A. You cannot have a good day if you have a bad conscience (cf. Acts 23:1; 24:16; 1 Tim. 1:5).

B. Something in their past is “eating them up.” If you’re saved, your past is passed! Don’t live in the past. “*Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before*” (Phil. 3:13).

**SUMMATION:** Having a “good day” depends on: Your *conversation... your conduct... your consciousness... your consecration... and your conscience*.

A Scriptural way to say to someone “have a good day” would be to follow the invocation of Moses in Numbers 6:24-26, or Paul’s benediction in 2 Corinthians 13:14.

“Good-bye” = The “good” in “good-bye” was originally “God.”<sup>1</sup> The expression was short for “God be with you,” a form of “fare-well” (fare= travel [wayfarer], well “may you travel well”).

John wrote about bidding someone “*God speed*” (2 John 10-11). According to Strong, the Greek word (*chairo* - British “cheerio”) translated, “*God speed*,” means “to be cheerful, i.e. calmly happy or be well:—farewell, be glad.”

So with all that in mind, *Have a good day!*

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<sup>1</sup> Ayto, *John Arcade Dictionary of Word Origins*, Arcade Publishing, New York, 1990, p. 259.