

# If You Could Have One Wish

by James W. Adams

If you could have the complete fulfillment of one wish, what would it be? If the Lord should grant you the answer to one petition of a personal nature, what would you ask of Him? Would you ask for physical health? Would you ask for security in old age? Would you ask for material substance? Would you ask for success in life's vocation? Would you ask for happiness? Such a question opens so wide a field for thought that the imagination is staggered. Is it unquestionably true that a man's real character would be portrayed in his answer to it? It might well serve, then, as an introspective exercise in determining one's true status before God. It could serve admirably as a criterion for self-examination.

Has any great person of history grappled with this question? Has any man of stature ever dared to answer it? Indeed so! David, the sweet singer of Israel, the "man after God's own heart," not only grappled with it but also dared to make reply. He said:

*"One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple. "*  
(Ps. 27:4)

If every child of God on earth today should make David's goal the end and aim of his life, such a revolution would take place in the church of the living God as man has never seen, followed by results such as are beyond his power of conception. Too many professed servants of the Lord are spiritually schizophrenic. They are too religious to commit themselves to the world and too worldly to commit themselves to the Lord. They are seeking as Jesus suggested "to serve two masters." They "halt" as did those of old "between two opinions." They are "lukewarm — neither cold nor hot."

The true servant of the Master is characterized by absolute commitment. The very meaning of the term "sanctification," which is used to describe the follower of Christ in the New Testament, lays upon the child of God the solemn obligation of unreserved unqualified commitment to the Lord and His way. To "sanctify" is to set something apart for sacred or holy uses. It is an absolute commitment, dedication or consecration of the thing sanctified to a specific purpose or use. To prostitute the sanctified to other purposes or uses is an act of desecration or sacrilege. Have you "given yourself to the Lord?"