

## **“Don’t Lessen the Lesson”**

Thoughts of Wisdom collected by Dr. Ralph “Yankee” Arnold

1. If I am at war with myself, I can bring little peace to my fellow friend. (**Proverbs 25:19, 25-28**)
2. Doing nothing is the most tiresome job in the world because you cannot quit and rest. (**Gen. 3:17-19**)
3. Rest not from labour, but rest in it. (**Matt. 11:28-30**) (learning to rest while you work)
4. In witnessing don’t hurry, don’t worry, do your best, and leave the rest to the Lord. (**I Cor. 3:5-8**)
5. To carry worry to bed is to sleep with a pack on your back (**I Peter 5:7**)
6. **This is maturity:** to be able to stick with a job until it is finished; to be able to bear an injustice without wanting to get even; and to do one’s duty without being supervised. (**II Tim. 3:15-17**)
7. How men treat us will make little difference when we know we have God’s approval. (**John 8:29**)
8. Great victories come, not through ease but by fighting valiantly and meeting hardships bravely. (**II Tim. 2:3-4**)
9. A smooth sea never made a skillful sailor. (**Rom. 5:3**)
10. Making excuses doesn’t change truth. **Don’t lessen the lesson.** Sometimes a reason is an excuse stuffed with a lie.
11. God sometimes washes the eyes of his children with tears that we may read aright His providence and His commandment. **Psa 56:8** Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: *are they* not in thy book? Remember when the Lord brought you to tears?
12. Anytime a man takes a stand, there will come a time when he’ll be tested to see how firm his feet are planted.
13. Troubles are often the tools by which God fashions us for better things.
  - a. Good timber does not grow in ease, the stronger wind, the stronger the trees,
  - b. The farther the sky the greater length, the more the storms the more the strength.
  - c. By the sun and cold, by rain and snow, in tree or man good timber grows.
14. It is easier to be critical than correct. You may even be right but correct it wrong.
15. The same furnace that liquefies gold hardens clay. (**I Peter 1:6-7**)