

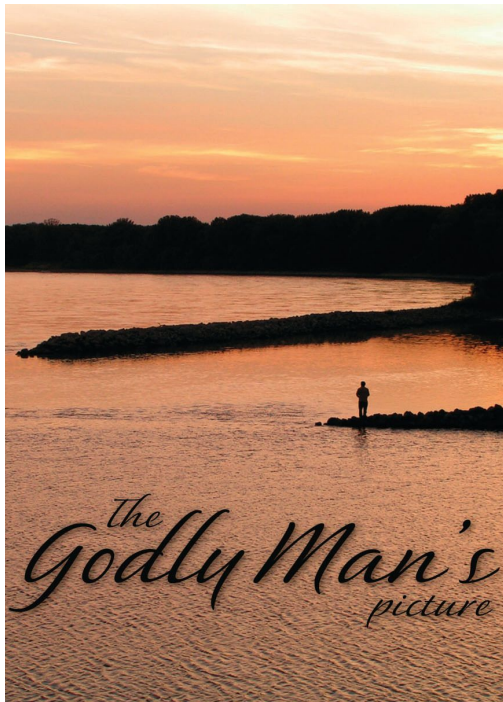
book of the month The Godly Man's Picture – Thomas Watson

The Godly Man's Picture is one of my favorite books because of what it has contributed to my own thinking and holiness over the years. The book opens with these words: "The soul being so precious, and salvation so glorious, it is the highest point of prudence to make preparations for another world." Watson aids the reader in making these preparations by succinctly describing many necessary manifestations of holiness in the Christian. I have returned to this book many times in order to reread certain sections or reference a quote on a particular subject because the book covers so much so succinctly. If you cannot read it in one month, it will be worth however long it takes to read it cover to cover.

– Omri Miles

READING TIPS:

1. Remember that Watson is a well-educated Puritan writing from England in the 17th century, so some of his diction might be a bit unfamiliar. A mobile dictionary app might come in handy at times.
2. Watson was a master of the English language. Pay attention to his use of analogies and illustrations. These help drive home the theological truth being communicated as well as make it more memorable.
3. As with many Puritan writers, Watson writes in a detailed outline format. This means that each chapter is broken up into main points, sub-points, and sub-sub-points. So don't hesitate to read in short spurts at times. 2-5 minutes (on breaks at work, in the bathroom, before bed, etc.) is often enough time to complete an entire thought.



PURITAN PAPERBACKS □ THOMAS WATSON

Suggested One-Month Reading Plan (about 63 pages per week)

Week 1: Monday, the 4th – Sunday, the 10th

To the Reader; 'For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee' (Psa. 32:6); Expounding the Nature of Godliness; A Reproof to Such as are Only Pretenders to Godliness; Showing Characteristics of a Godly Man: *a Man of Knowledge; a Man Moved by Faith; a Man Fired With Love; a Man Life God; a Man Careful About the Worship of God; a Man Who Serves God Not Men; a Man Who Prizes Christ; a Man Who Weeps; a Man Who Loves the Word*

Week 2: Monday, the 11th – Sunday, the 17th

a Man Who Has the Spirit of God Residing in Him; a Man of Humility; a Man of Prayer; a Man of Sincerity; a Heavenly Man; a Zealous Man; and Patient Man

Week 3: Monday, the 18th – Sunday, the 24th

a Thankful Man; Man Who Loves the Saints; a Man Who Does Not Indulge Himself in any Sin; a Man Who Is Good in his Relationship; a Man Who Does Spiritual Things in a Spiritual Manner; a Man Thoroughly Trained in Religion; a Man Who Walks With God; a Man Who Strives To Be an Instrument for Making Others Godly

Week 4: Monday, the 25th – Sunday, March 3rd

Two Conclusions About the Characteristics of a Godly Man; AN Exhortation to Godliness: *Let Men Seriously Weigh Their Misery While They Remain in a State of Ungodliness; What Rare Persons the Godly Are; To Strive for Godliness Is Most Rational; the Excellence of Godliness; There Are Only a Few Godly; Consider How Vain and Contemptible Other Things Are, About Which Persons Void of Godliness Busy Themselves; Prescribing Some Helps to Godliness; AN Exhortation To Persevere in Godliness; Motives To Persevere in Godliness; Counsel for the Godly; Comfort for the Godly; Showing the Mystic Union Between Christ and the Saints*

Quotes

"Godliness consists in an exact harmony between holy principles and practices."

"The wicked hate the hypocrite because he is almost a Christian, and God hates him because he is only almost one."

"A gracious heart is like a piece of good ground that, having received the seed of mercy, produces a crop of obedience."

"A godly man's heart is the library to hold the Word of God; it dwells richly in him."

"A humble man is willing to have his name and gifts eclipsed, so that God's glory may be increased. He is content to be outshone by others in gifts and esteem, so that the crown of Christ may shine the brighter."

"A godly man is on the mount of prayer every day; he begins the day with prayer; before he opens his shop, he opens his heart to God."