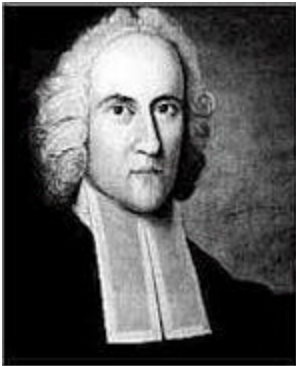




The Intentional Life (Part 2)



In our last issue, we discussed how many of us are randomly walking through life with no established goals, or we are highly successful in business but have not established an intentional game plan for other areas of our life. In this issue, we want to compare and contrast the lives of two contemporaries from the mid to late 1700s.

The first was Max Jukes. According to research done by Richard Louis Dugdell in an article published in 1970, Max Jukes was a confirmed atheist and was married to a woman of a similar belief system. He was reported to have been an alcoholic and a frequenter of "ladies of the night." A follow-up study on his descendants done in the 19th century traced 560 of his descendants and found that:

- 310 died as paupers
- 150 became known criminals, including 7 murderers
- 100 were known alcoholics
- Over half of the women were prostitutes.

All of these sentences combined had cost the U.S. government \$1.25 million in the 19th century.

Contrast that with the life of Jonathan Edwards (pictured above). Mr. Edwards was a committed man of faith and married a woman of similar values. He had a very busy job serving as the president of what is now Princeton University. He began his day at 4:30 a.m. in study and prayer for his family. In spite of his busy schedule, he spent at least one hour per day intentionally working with his family in the areas they valued--primarily their faith and their education. According to research done by Benjamin B. Warfield of Princeton University, 1,349 descendants have been traced. Of his direct descendants:

- 295 graduated from college
- 13 were college presidents
- 65 became college professors
- 3 became U.S. governors
- 30 became judges
- 100 were lawyers
- 56 were physicians
- 1 was the dean of a medical school
- 75 were military officers
- 100 were pastors

There were over 80 other government officials including a Vice President of the United States.

Ultimately we will all be pushing up daisies one day. Beyond the goal of making a lot of money and reaching financial success, a deeper need for significance will exist. Ultimately, our legacy will be what we leave behind. I believe as we all look back, the life of Jonathan Edwards shows the rewards of an intentional life that goes beyond just the success of the office but brings success to family and faith as well.

Good luck and good selling!

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