

Q: What changes would you make if you could return to your youth?

A: If I were given the opportunity to start over again I would try to develop more self-discipline. When I was a boy my father often said to me: "Use the pen; there is magic in it. Practice writing." When he spoke this way I would say to myself: "That is certainly right. One of these days I shall begin to practice writing." If only I had written something every day and then worked it over and talked about it with my father I could by this time have had three or four times as much published. I wish that as a young man I had developed more discipline.

Yet there is one thing that I am glad I have done. I have maintained a balanced life. I have always seen to it that I got plenty of exercise and that I got a certain amount of relaxation. ^{This is} This is doubtless part of the reason for the excellent health that I have enjoyed and am still enjoying.

Q: Another question: why are you still teaching at the age of 80?

A: As long as others feel that I have something worth giving, and as long as God gives me the strength to present it in decent fashion, I will continue to endeavor to advance His purposes.

Q: Many great authors, such as R. Laird Harris, Francis Schaeffer, S. J. Schultz, and my college principal, Dr. Tow, have mentioned your name in their books and expressed gratitude for what they have received from your teaching. Why have you not written more books yourself?

A: That is one of my greatest regrets. I wish I had developed the discipline to write something every day and work over it enough to get it into decent shape. I have given many lectures during my life and I believe that every lecture I ever gave made me a poorer writer. The art of writing and the art of speaking are entirely different and utilize different techniques.

There may perhaps also be another reason. Dr. Laird Harris used to say that I was too much of a perfectionist. He said that I was too anxious that everything I do be just right and therefore gave too much time to each individual writing task.