Finishing Strong
Job 8:5-7  If you would earnestly seek God And make your supplication to the Almighty, (6) If you were pure and upright, Surely now He would awake for you, And prosper your rightful dwelling place. (7) Though your beginning was small, Yet your latter end would increase abundantly.
Luk 12:15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.
Luk 12:18-19 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. (19) And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.
Luk 12:20-21 But God said unto him, *Thou* fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? (21) So *is* he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.
I had a little tea party
This afternoon at three.
'Twas very small -
Three guests in all
Just I, Myself, and Me.
Myself ate all the sandwiches,
While I drank up the tea.
'Twas also I who ate the pie
And passed the cake to Me.
2 Tim 4:6-8  For I am already being poured out, and the time of my release is here. (7) I have fought the good fight. I have finished the course. I have kept the faith. (8) For the rest, the crown of righteousness is laid up for me, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me in that Day, and not only to me, but also to all the ones loving His appearance.
2 Tim 4:10  For Demas deserted me, loving the present age, and he went to Thessalonica.
“Here were two men who had ministered together - Paul and Demas - mentor and mentoree. One endured and finished the race and looked forward to the crown of righteousness. The other man peeled off, deserted his mentor, and was never heard from again.”
Job 2:9-10 Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!" (10) But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.
Job 13:15-16  Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him. Even so, I will defend my own ways before Him. (16) He also shall be my salvation, For a hypocrite could not come before Him.
Three keys to finishing strong:
1. Crucify your flesh.
Gal 5:24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.
Mat 15:18-19 But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. (19) For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:
1 Cor 9:26-27 Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. (27) But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.
Three keys to finishing strong:
1. Crucify your flesh.
2. Surrender all:
Luk 9:23-24  And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. (24) For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.

Deny = Aparneomai = to forget one’s self, lose sight of one’s self and one’s own interests
Luk 22:41-42 And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, (42) Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.
Pro 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. (6) In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.
Three keys to finishing strong:
1. Crucify your flesh.
2. Surrender all.
3. Become a bondservant of God.
1 Tim 4:6 If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister (servant) of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.
1 Cor 6:19-20 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? (20) For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.
1 Cor 10:31-33 Then whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all things to the glory of God. (32) Be without offense both to Jews and Greeks, and to the assembly of God. (33) Even as I also please all in all things, not seeking my own advantage, but that of the many, that they may be saved.