

wallace wattles the science of being great

Introduction to Wallace Wattles and His Philosophy

Wallace Wattles The Science of Being Great is a profound work that delves into the principles of personal development and success. Published in 1910, this book is part of Wattles' broader series that includes "The Science of Getting Rich" and "The Science of Being Well." In "The Science of Being Great," Wattles outlines a systematic approach to achieving greatness in life, emphasizing that greatness is not reserved for a select few but is attainable for anyone willing to embrace certain principles.

Wattles' philosophy is grounded in the belief that individuals can cultivate their inherent potential and achieve greatness through thought, action, and the right mindset. This article will explore the fundamental concepts presented by Wattles, his views on the nature of greatness, and practical applications of his teachings.

Understanding Greatness According to Wattles

Wattles contends that greatness is an inherent quality within every individual. However, the manifestation of this greatness depends on one's mindset and the actions taken to cultivate it. His perspective on greatness can be summarized through the following key points:

1. Greatness is Universal

Wattles asserts that greatness is not the exclusive domain of the wealthy or famous. Instead, he argues that anyone can achieve greatness by tapping into their inner potential. This democratization of greatness is central to his philosophy, encouraging individuals from all walks of life to aspire to their highest potential.

2. The Role of Thought

Central to Wattles' teachings is the concept that thoughts shape reality. He emphasizes the importance of maintaining a positive and constructive mindset. In Wattles' view, greatness begins in the mind; it is essential to think

about the kind of life and success one desires. This involves:

- Visualizing Success: Picture what greatness looks like for you.
- Positive Affirmations: Regularly affirm your capabilities and potential.
- Focused Intention: Concentrate your thoughts on your goals and aspirations.

3. Action is Essential

While thought is crucial, Wattles strongly emphasizes that action is equally important. He believes that thoughts alone will not lead to greatness; they must be coupled with decisive actions. Wattles outlines several principles of effective action:

- Consistency: Take regular, purposeful steps toward your goals.
- Confidence: Act with assurance; belief in oneself propels success.
- Adaptability: Be willing to change your approach based on circumstances.

The Principles of the Science of Being Great

Wattles provides a systematic framework for achieving greatness, which can be broken down into several core principles:

1. The Vision of Greatness

Wattles encourages readers to create a clear vision of what greatness means to them. This vision should encompass not only personal aspirations but also contributions to society. A well-defined vision serves as a guiding star, helping individuals stay focused on their goals.

2. Cultivating a Power of Thought

Wattles emphasizes the importance of cultivating a powerful, positive thought process. This involves:

- Eliminating Negative Thoughts: Recognize and replace negative beliefs that hinder growth.
- Surrounding Yourself with Positivity: Engage with uplifting people and materials.
- Mindfulness and Gratitude: Practice being present and thankful for what you have.

3. Developing Personal Character

Character development is crucial in Wattles' philosophy. He posits that great individuals possess specific traits, such as integrity, kindness, and perseverance. To cultivate these qualities, he suggests:

- Self-Reflection: Regularly assess your character and identify areas for improvement.
- Commitment to Growth: Be dedicated to continuous personal development.
- Service to Others: Engage in acts of kindness and service, as this builds character.

4. The Law of Attraction

Wattles introduces the concept of the Law of Attraction, which posits that like attracts like. By maintaining positive thoughts and visualizing success, individuals attract opportunities and outcomes that align with their desires. He advises readers to:

- Focus on Abundance: Cultivate a mindset of abundance rather than scarcity.
- Visualize Your Desires: Create a mental image of your goals and focus on them daily.
- Act as if You Are Already Great: Embody the qualities and behaviors of a successful person.

Practical Applications of Wattles' Teachings

Wattles' principles can be applied in various aspects of life, from personal development to professional success. Here are some practical ways to implement his teachings:

1. Setting Clear Goals

Establish specific, measurable, and realistic goals that align with your vision of greatness. Break these goals down into smaller, achievable steps to maintain focus and motivation.

2. Daily Affirmations and Visualization

Incorporate daily affirmations and visualization exercises into your routine. Spend a few minutes each day imagining your success and repeating affirmations that reinforce your belief in your potential.

3. Developing a Routine of Action

Create a daily routine that includes time for focused work on your goals. This routine should also allow for self-reflection and evaluation of your progress.

4. Engaging in Continuous Learning

Commit to lifelong learning by reading books, attending workshops, and seeking mentorship. The pursuit of knowledge not only enhances your skills but also fosters personal growth.

5. Cultivating Relationships

Surround yourself with positive, like-minded individuals who support your journey. Build relationships that encourage growth, collaboration, and mutual success.

Conclusion: Embracing the Science of Being Great

Wallace Wattles' "The Science of Being Great" offers timeless wisdom that continues to resonate with individuals seeking personal and professional success. By understanding that greatness is within reach for everyone, and by applying the principles of positive thought, decisive action, and character development, individuals can unlock their potential and lead fulfilling lives.

As we navigate the challenges of modern life, Wattles' teachings remind us that our thoughts and actions shape our reality. By embracing these principles, we can each embark on a journey toward greatness, contributing not only to our own success but also to the betterment of society as a whole. Ultimately, the science of being great is not just about personal achievement; it is about uplifting others and creating a legacy of positivity and excellence for future generations.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main premise of Wallace Wattles' 'The

Science of Being Great'?

The main premise of 'The Science of Being Great' is that greatness is attainable through the application of certain principles and mental attitudes, emphasizing the importance of self-belief, positive thinking, and taking action toward one's goals.

How does Wattles define 'greatness' in his book?

'Greatness' is defined by Wattles as achieving one's highest potential and contributing positively to society, suggesting that true greatness comes from a sense of purpose and the ability to inspire others.

What role does mindset play in achieving greatness according to Wattles?

Wattles emphasizes that a positive and constructive mindset is crucial for achieving greatness, as one's thoughts shape their reality and influence their actions and outcomes.

What are some key principles outlined by Wattles for becoming great?

Key principles include cultivating a clear vision of one's goals, maintaining a positive mental attitude, taking decisive actions, and continuously learning and growing from experiences.

How does 'The Science of Being Great' relate to personal development?

The book is a foundational text in personal development, encouraging readers to harness their inner potential, practice self-discipline, and adopt habits that align with their aspirations for greatness.

What is the significance of the law of attraction in Wattles' philosophy?

Wattles' philosophy includes the idea that the law of attraction plays a significant role in achieving greatness, as one's thoughts and beliefs can attract opportunities and resources that align with their desires.

Does Wattles provide practical exercises in the book?

Yes, Wattles includes practical exercises and mental exercises designed to help readers develop the mindset and habits necessary for achieving greatness.

In what ways does Wattles suggest one can contribute to society?

Wattles suggests that individuals can contribute to society by using their talents, skills, and knowledge to uplift others, engage in meaningful work, and inspire those around them.

How has 'The Science of Being Great' influenced modern self-help literature?

The book has influenced modern self-help literature by laying the groundwork for concepts like the power of positive thinking, visualization, and the importance of setting clear intentions for personal success.

Can the principles in 'The Science of Being Great' be applied in professional settings?

Absolutely, the principles can be applied in professional settings by fostering a growth mindset, encouraging teamwork, and striving for excellence in one's work, which can lead to career advancement and organizational success.

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