

## Run the Race

They said Secretariat was a horse “build by God.” Physically, Secretariat was built perfectly to run. His heart was twice as big as any other horse, but he also had endurance, a rare combination. He seemed to take pleasure in starting out in last place, just to pass everyone on his way to a new track or race record. But when Secretariat ran the third race in the Triple Crown in 1973, he started out first and kept on going! By the time he finished, he was a full 31 links ahead of Sham who ran the race of his life, only to come in a distant second. Secretariat was made to run!

In the 2010 movie Secretariat, the groom played gospel music while grooming Secretariat and it was like Secretariat knew he had been created to run and win for God’s pleasure. When he didn’t win, he would go to the back of his stall and “think” about it. The next race, he would win with a new record.

God takes pleasure in hiding treasure so that man has the pleasure of discovering it. That could even mean what our very purpose on earth is. God doesn’t withhold things from us, he invites, challenges, and cajoles us into really pursuing something! He invites us to allow the Holy Spirit to put wings on our feet and the wind at our back and do what we were built to do.

Have you discovered what you have been created for! We have all been given gifts and tools and desires and abilities that would help us live out our calling and destiny. Many times, our gifts are buried or not recognized for what they are, but if we look inside and see what excites and motivates us, that is a good clue to see who we are.

There may be people in your life who don’t want you to succeed, or ridicule you, and think they are better than you. But don’t believe it! God has created only ONE you. He has called and equipped you to live a special purpose in this life. We can take a page from Secretariat’s life and the Race of Faith that is talked about in the book of Hebrews. “Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. (Hebrews 12:1b-2a, NKJV).

Thank You, Jesus, for the example of Secretariat. Thank you that You have built me to run the race that is set before me. Help me push past the things that would distract or hinder me from being all You created me to be. Give me strength to run so that I leave the devil in the dust, a full 31 lengths behind me. Thanks!