

*Orison Swett Marden*

Orison Swett Marden (1850-1924), American author and founder of Success Magazine.

# THE EXPECTANT MIND

Selected quotes from Orison Swett Marden on the benefits of living in a state of positive expectancy. Compiled by [infusebooks.com](http://infusebooks.com)

The stream of plenty flows toward the open mind, the expectant mind. It flows toward faith and confidence and away from doubt. It will not flow toward a stingy, pessimistic, unbelieving mind, a fearing, worrying, anxious mind. We must keep the current open or the supply will be cut off.



Your expectation opens or closes the doors of your supply. If you expect grand things, and work honestly for them, they will come to you, your supply will correspond with your expectation.



There is no medicine like hope, no incentive so great, and no tonic so powerful as expectation of something tomorrow.



We advance on our journey only when we face our goal, when we are confident and believe we are going to win out.



What we vigorously resolve to do, believe in with all our heart, confidently expect, the mental forces tend to realize. The very intensity of expectation enlists the vigor of all the mental processes in trying to accomplish things.



Our expectancy, our determination to achieve the thing on which we have set our heart, forms a pattern, a working model, which the mind endeavors to reproduce in reality. It is the mental picture which is used as the model for the creative forces.



If you go about with an apologetic air as though you would *pick up anything that anybody else dropped and be glad to get it*, but that you do not expect much of yourself; as though you do not believe that the grand things, the good things of the world are intended for you, you will pass for a very small man.



Most successful men I have known had the habit of expecting things to turn out right. No matter how black or discouraging the outlook, they held tenaciously to their faith in the final outcome. This habit of holding an expectant attitude in some mysterious way unknown to us attracts the thing we long for, just as though our own were always seeking us when we were seeking it.

I know of no other habit which would bring so much of value to our lives as that of always expecting that the best will happen to us instead of the worst, of taking it for granted that we are going to win out in whatever we undertake.



There are many people who are habitually successful. Everything they touch seems to turn out well. They start out with the expectation of succeeding, with full, complete confidence that they are going to win, and they do.



The habit of expecting great things of ourselves calls out the best in us. It tends to awaken forces which but for the greater demand, the higher call, would remain latent.

## *From others...*

The word lose simply stands for Lack Of Success Expectancy.  
· Doug Firebaugh

Creative power, is that receptive attitude of expectancy which makes a mold into which the plastic and as yet undifferentiated substance can flow and take the desired form.  
· Thomas Troward


High achievement always takes place in the framework of high expectation.  
· Jack Kinder

We never live; we are always in the expectation of living.  
· Voltaire

Act like you expect to get into the end zone.  
· Joe Paterno

Faith is expectancy. You do not receive what you want; you do not receive what you pray for, not even what you say you have faith in. You will always receive what you actually expect.  
· Eric Butterworth

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