

The Messenger



“... How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things!” Romans 10:15

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Dempsey Collins

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Listen to PROVE ALL THINGS on 730 AM WKRE, Sunday mornings from 8:15 to 8:30

Morning Meditations

by Mary Ann Palmer

Father, thank You for the quiet early morning hours when the sun is dawning the day, and the birds awake the night's stillness with their song. Thank You for this quiet time to meditate on Your Word and reflect on Your mercy and loving kindness. Though there are floors to sweep, dusting and laundry waiting, and needs of children to tend to, help me now at this moment, to set those cares aside, to be calm in my soul, to refresh my weary spirit with the water of life - the feast of spiritual food I have access to in the Bible. Let me draw deeply from its contents that I may nourish my soul and gain needed strength to take care of today's burdens and obligations, and to remember with gratitude that they are tools to make me a better servant of Yours. Grant me wisdom and understanding and knowledge as You did Solomon of long ago that I may rightly handle disagreements of sibling children, that I may know how to answer those who question my faith, and that I may teach others to follow You through word and example. This day, help me to follow You completely and turn my will to Yours is my prayer through Jesus.



The Bible and the TV Guide

Author Unknown

On the table side by side; The Holy Bible and the TV Guide
One is well worn but cherished with pride (Not the Bible, but the TV Guide).

One is used daily to help folk decide. No! It isn't the Bible; it's the TV Guide.
As pages are turned, what shall they see? Oh, what does it matter, turn on the TV.

Then confusion reigns; they can't all agree on what they shall watch on the old TV.
So they open the book in which they confide (No, not the Bible - it's the TV Guide).

The Word of God is seldom read. Maybe a verse e'er they fall into bed.
Exhausted and sleepy and tired as can be; not from reading the Bible - from watching TV.



Idolatry American Style

by Joe Barnett

TIME: 2050 A.D.

PLACE: Eastern Hemisphere University
History of Great Civilizations Class

Student: “What really happened to the United States?”

Professor: “They were annihilated by idolatry.”

Student: “But I thought they were a Christian nation.”

Professor: “So called. But history concludes that ‘Christian America’ was actually just as materialistic as ‘Communist Russia’.”

Student: “But weren’t they believers in Jesus Christ? How could believers be considered idolaters?”

Professor: “Strangely, they totally ignored some of the plainest statements of Jesus, such as: ‘Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth;’ ‘Seek ye first the kingdom of God;’ and ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’ In fact, 17 of His 36 parables dealt with such things as property, stewardship, and covetousness. Yet history’s clear conclusion is that America was one of the most covetous nations in the history of civilization. And Paul, the most voluminous Christian writer, plainly states: ‘Covetousness...is idolatry’ (Colossians 3:5).”

Student: “You mean they were more concerned with material possessions than with religion?”

Professor: “Right! In fact, the pursuit of material possessions was their religion. They put comforts above Christ and gains above God.”

Student: “How did they fail to comprehend the teachings of the Bible concerning covetousness?”

Professor: “That’s a question history students have been trying to answer for a half century. It’s puzzling, because the so-called Christian people looked with horror upon such things as murder, fornication and drunkenness. Yet, the same New Testament passages which condemned these sins almost invariably listed covetousness also. (Rom. 1:29-31; 1 Cor. 5:9-10; Eph. 5:5).”

Student: “Weren’t they a very prosperous people? Why weren’t they satisfied with their possessions?”

Professor: “Perhaps their Bible can best answer: ‘He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase’ (Ecc. 5:10). Yes, they were a prosperous people. The tragedy is that instead of possessing their possessions, their possessions seemed to possess them. Their most popular Utopias were pictured as a time when everyone would be financially well-to-do. But, they were never satisfied. Selfishness was the suicide of their society. And, if their Bible was true, they missed their major goal too, for it said: ‘For this ye know, that no...covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God’ (Eph. 5:5).”

Remember to check the prayer list for those with ongoing spiritual weaknesses and physical illnesses.

“...Pray for one another...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” James 5:16