

# The Messenger



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

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## “Life is Not Fair!”

*by David Thomley*

Sitting on a grassy hillside with his long hair pulled back and tied in a ponytail, a nineteen-year-old thinker munched on his organically grown fruit and contemplated life. This same ritual had been going on for three days, a ritual initiated by the sudden departure of the girl he loved. He thought about the lower middle class family to which he had been born, putting him at a distant economic disadvantage as compared to his peers. He thought about the low grade he received in his marketing class, and he had struggled for that. The guy who sat behind him in class never passed a test, but somehow pulled a “B” in the course. At the beginning of the semester, he was fortunate enough to receive one of the more desirable student employment positions on campus. Just two days earlier, his supervisor told him that he would lose the job the next semester because “somebody’s nephew” wanted it.

On the third day, late in the afternoon, this young man finally spoke. He had arrived at his conclusion on life, and he was prepared to state his profound observation. “Life is not fair.”

Which is the greater wonder? That a nineteen-year-old would arrive at such a conclusion on life? Or that this young man had lived nineteen years without ever realizing this truth?

Life is not fair. God never said it would be. In a sin-cursed world, it cannot be. The preacher said, “There is something else meaningless that occurs on earth: righteous men who get what the wicked deserve, and wicked men who get what the righteous deserve” (Ecc. 8:14). Jesus made His own comment of life’s unfairness when he observed, “He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous” (Matt. 5:45). While living in opposition to the gospel, Saul of Tarsus had a fairly comfortable life. After he committed his life to preaching the gospel of Jesus, he suffered beatings, imprisonment, stoning, shipwreck, hunger and other severities of life. And so it has been with many other Christians through the centuries. It may not be fair – but it’s life. God’s promise is, “in the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world” (John 16:33).

Life is not fair. But keep in mind, that’s not all bad. When this life is over, and I stand before the judgment seat of Christ, I do not want what is fair, I want grace.



## If Jesus Came to Your House

by Lois Blanchard

If Jesus came into your house to spend a day or two -  
If He came unexpectedly, I wonder what you'd do?  
Oh, I know you'd give your nicest room to such an honored Guest,  
And all the food you'd serve to Him would be the very best.  
And you would keep assuring Him you're glad to have Him there,  
That serving Him in your home is joy beyond compare.

But when you saw Him coming, would you meet Him at the door  
With arms outstretched in welcome to your Heavenly visitor?  
Or would you have to change your clothes before you let Him in,  
Or hide some magazines and put the Bible where they'd been?  
Would you turn off the radio and hope He hadn't heard  
And wish you hadn't uttered that last loud, hasty word?

Would you hide your worldly music and put some hymn books out?  
Could you let Jesus walk right in, or would you rush about?  
And I wonder - if the Saviour spent a day or two with you,  
Would you go right on doing the things you always do?  
Would you keep on saying the things you always say?  
Would life for you continue as it does from day to day?

Would your family conversation keep up its usual pace,  
And would you find it hard each meal to say a table grace?  
Would you sing the songs you always sing and read the books you

read

And let Him know the things on which your mind and spirit feed?  
Would you take Jesus with you everywhere you plan to go,  
Or would you maybe change your plans for just a day or so?

Would you be glad to have Him meet your very closest friends,  
Or would you hope they'd stay away, until His visit ends?  
Would you be glad to have Him stay forever on and on?  
Or would you sigh with great relief when He at last was gone?  
It might be interesting to know the things that you would do  
If Jesus Christ in person came to spend some time with you.

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### **News and Notes:**

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*