



August 03, 2013

SPOILED? WHO'S SPOILED? - PART 7 - By Buddy Smith

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FEATURE ARTICLE

Spoiled? Who's Spoiled? - Pt 7

DEACON TRUE SEZ

WAITING FOR A MINISTRY

NOTABLE QUOTES AND QUOTABLE NOTES

MARIJUANA AND CRIME

ILLEGAL EMIGRANTS

THE WORDS GOD CHOSE TO USE

A BOOK THAT WILL MAKE YOU HAPPY

A PERSONAL EVALUATION

THERAPY FOR THE FUNNY BONE

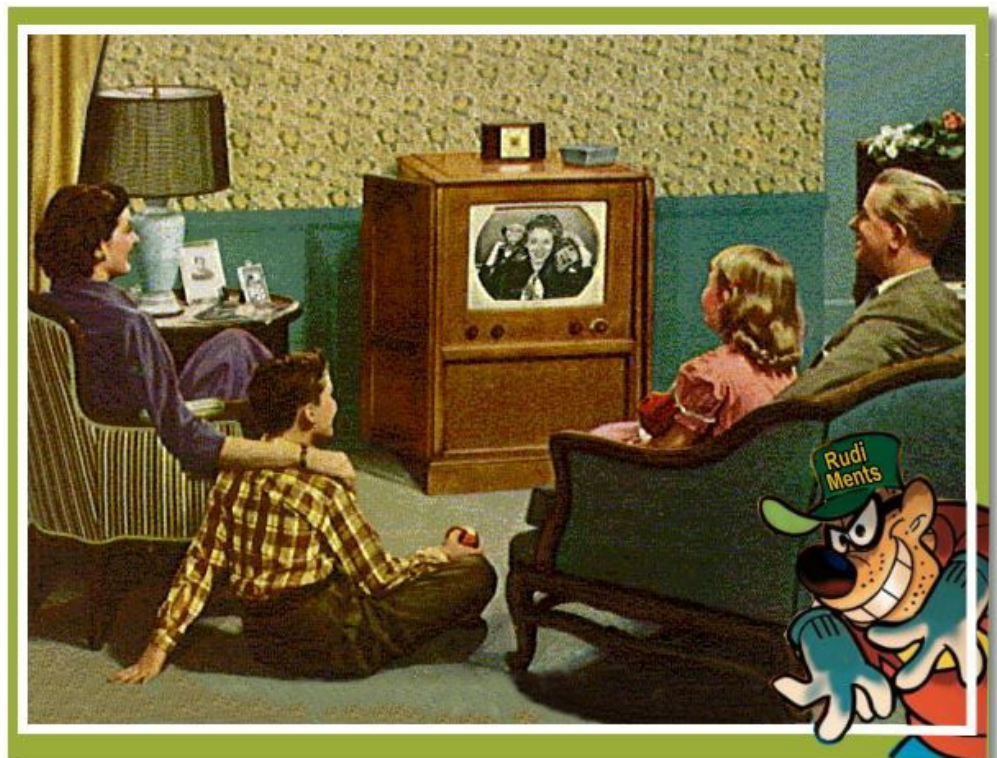
POEMS THAT MAKE US SAY "OUCH!"

DIARIES OF THE SAINTS

THE BIRD'S FLIGHT FEATHERS

EDDY-TORIAL

*The Little Horse With Polished
Hooves, or Axle Grease?*



"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."
Colossians 2:8

THE FOUR THIEVES WHO ROB OUR CHURCHES -

There are four thieves who rob the churches, Phil Osophy, Vain DeCeit, Tradition, and Rudi Ments.

WHAT ARE RUDIMENTS?

If there is a word in Col. 2:8 that we are not familiar with, it is "rudiments". The English word means, "the basic elements, the fundamental principles". It conveys the thought of the germ of life in an organism, or that which is embryonic. The Greek word in our text is the word "Stoicheion", which speaks of a series of things, "that proceed in a row as in the marching of soldiers, or to go in order." In modern terminology, we are reminded of the DNA that determines what any person is and becomes.

Heads Up!

Post: P.O. Box 684, Malanda, Qld., 4885;
Phone: 07 4096 6657
Email: smiletex@higpond.net.au
Website: www.gracebaptistmalanda.net.au

SO WHAT IS THE "WORLD"?

THE "WORLD" IS DEFINED THREE WAYS IN SCRIPTURE.

- The Created Universe

In John 17:5 and 24, the world is defined to mean the universe created by God. *"And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was."* and *"Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world."* The Lord Jesus here speaks of the creation of the cosmos, that orderly system made by God at Creation. And there are rudiments in his creation, basic natural laws laid down by God.

- A World of Men

In John 17:23, 21 we read, *"I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me."* *"That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me."* Here the Lord speaks of another "cosmos." It is a damaged system, maimed by sin, and yet it retains some marks of order. Tribes, and Languages, and Tongues, and Nations delineate the world of men. God says in Acts 17:26 that He *"hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation"* The order of man's world is unraveling, but it still exists.

- A World System That Does Not Know God

John 17:6 *I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.*

17:9 *I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.*

17:11 *And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.*

17:12 *While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.*

17:13 *And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.*

17:14 *I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.*

17:15 *I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.*

17:16 *They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.*

17:18 *As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.*

17:25 *O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me.*

DEACON TRUE SEZ -



Me and the preacher was havin' coffee at the cafe in town t'other day and he said he'd been gettin' lots of them free money emails, three or four a day.

All these people dying of infected toenails or sump'n, and they had these piles of money with nobody to give 'em to, so they wanted to send 'em to him if he'd only pay a few hunnerd dollars in fees. He said he didn't know how to get 'em stopped.

I asked him if he was still gettin' them beggin' letters from Lower Aftergrandstand, you know, preachers askin' for money for orphanages an' bizjets an' such.

He said he was, so I suggested he just put both lots of them folks in contact with each other. One wants to give him a big pile of money and the other is lookin' for a big pile of money, so why not just eliminate the "muddle man" and send them each other's addresses? Then everybody'd be happy. Them what has too much money can get rid of it, them that has none would have a-plenty, and him what knew they were both lyin' wouldn't be hearin' from either one ever again.

Of course, if you believe that, you need your head read.

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

There are great and powerful truths in this passage that help the believer to cope with living in a system he is no longer a part of. We are "ex-pats", strangers and pilgrims in a hostile world, sent into it as missionaries, just as Christ was.

This world system, originally created to be an orderly, well planned, rudimentary "cosmos" has been usurped by our Enemy, the Devil, and turned into "chaos". It is that "cosmos-under-the-curse" which lies in the Wicked One, I John 5:19, *"And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness."*

WHAT GOD SAYS ABOUT THE RUDIMENTS OF THE COSMOS/CHAOS

The ABC's of the Cosmos/Chaos world are listed for us in **1 John 2:16**, *"For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."*

• The Lust of the Flesh

The "lust of the flesh" is much more than simply what the body desires. It also includes whatever the old sinful nature craves. **James 1:14** *"But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed."*

• The Lust of the Eyes

The eyes of man are never full, so the wise man says, **Proverbs 27:20** *"Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied."* It is no wonder God identifies covetousness as being idolatry. Our eyes are ever seeking some substitute for God, something to lust after, that will fill the void in lost men's hearts.

• The Pride of Life

And what is the apex of the rudiments of the world? It is man boasting of his acquisitions, his achievements, and glorying in the gratification of his lusts. A. W. Tozer once quoted a philosopher as saying, "If a man has enough on the inside, he doesn't need much of what the world has to offer." This thought was expressed by the old holiness preacher Bud Robinson, when he was shown the sights of New York City one day and said in his bedtime prayer, "Well, Lord, I've seen the big city today, and I'm sure glad I didn't see anything I wanted."

THE DEVIL KNOWS MY LANGUAGE

These are the three temptations the Devil uses. I expect it is because he has never needed any more. These keys fit every lock. When he tempted Eve in the Garden, he

presented first the Lust of the Flesh (*"When she saw that the tree was good for food..."*), and then he offered her his second rudiment, the Lust of the Eyes (*"and when she saw that it was pleasant to the eyes..."*), and last he sealed the temptation with the Pride of Life (*"and a tree to be desired to make one wise..."*). And we remember how successful was the temptation, *"she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her and he did eat."*

He used the same rudiments when he failed in tempting Christ. First, there was the appeal to Him to step outside the will of His Father by turning the stones into bread (the lust of the flesh). Then there was the solicitation to acknowledge the Devil as God by bowing down and worshipping him in order to have all the kingdoms and glory of the world (the lust of the eyes). And last, there was an attempt to snare the Saviour into dispensing with the cross and claiming the crown by leaping off the pinnacle of the temple to the acclaim of the people (the pride of life.)

Every day every one of God's children faces the world's rudimentary temptations. The Devil offers them to us over and over, "How about something that gratifies the flesh? No, then would you like to crave something with the eyes? No, then maybe something that will make you feel successful and bring you honour? No? Well, let's combine all three and you can have it at a discount?" And on and on they go. Never a morning, never an afternoon, never a night time, never in private, never in public, never at church do we escape these continual rudiments of the world being offered to us by the Enemy of our souls. Never!

THE RUDIMENTS THAT SPOIL THE CHURCHES!!!

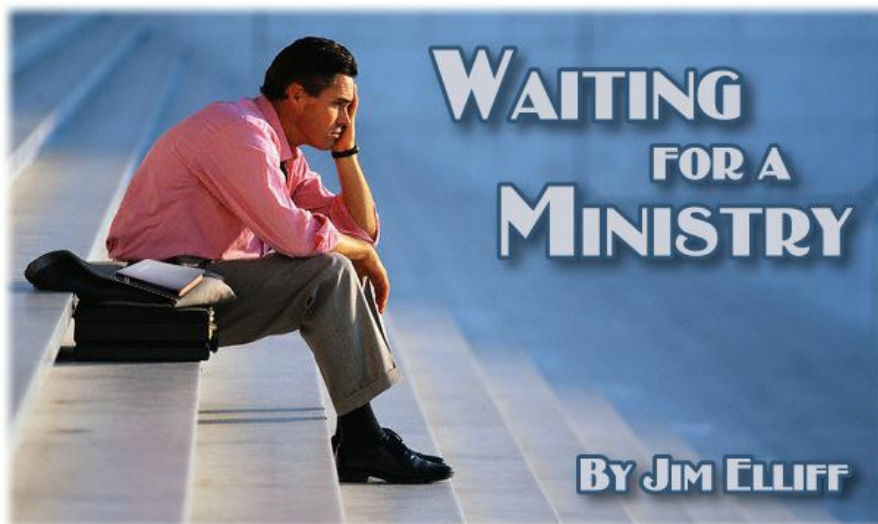
We must remember that the words of Col. 2:8 were addressed to a local church. The pastor and people of that church were warned to beware of men ("Beware lest any man!!!") who were at that very moment robbing the church of spiritual riches. One of the tools of this thievery is the bringing of the ABC's of the world into the church. Just as is happening today. If we only had eyes to see, we would perceive how much of the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life have flooded into our churches. You think not? Then next Sunday, go to church with your eyes open and look at what is said and done in your church. You will see carnality in dress, in speech, in attitudes, in actions. You will see men and women pandering to the lust of the eyes in the weekly Baptist Fashion Show. You will see men, in the pulpit and out of the pulpit, preening themselves and seeking the praise of their peers. And you will see the youth of the church doing their best to

copy their parents' lusts and pride. Say, have you ever wondered where the parents learned how to import the rudiments of the world into their homes and then into the churches? Why, they sat in training seminars in their own living rooms watching DVD's and learning from the darlings of Hollywood how to walk and sit and prance and cavort. All that changed when large screen TV's became the rage was that the size of the bilge pump was expanded so more sewage could be pumped into the home.

Is it any surprise that churches bear a stronger resemblance to casinos than they do to the courts of Heaven? Our homes have been moving in that direction for fifty years.

How we need to pray for revival in our homes and churches. If God will show mercy and visit our land again, it will mean that fathers will have to cast out the evil spirits that dwell in the entertainment centers in our living rooms. Until that is done we hope in vain for revival.

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)



It was John Wesley who said, "Don't seek for a ministry, but seek for the fruit of a disciplined life." In other words, pining away for a ministry is a waste of precious time. Rather, go deeper and God will use you in ways you haven't imagined. I have known many who feel they are marginalized in their context. No one has an interest in allowing them to exercise the gifts they have been given by God. So, they fret and wait and sometimes weep and complain. Let me give you some guiding principles for good ministry, no matter what your gifts.

Principle one: Bring new and better disciplines into your life and then see what God will do with that. In other words, be a leader by living the Christian life the best possible way. Let your life be your ministry.

The second principle is this: Do the hidden things that no one else may wish to do. For instance, you may be an exceptional leader that no one recognizes, but in the meantime, choose to minister in the forgotten places, such as the retirement home, or the prison, or among the poor. If you cannot teach thousands, teach one or two who will grow. Maybe one

NOTABLE QUOTES AND QUOTABLE NOTES -

- "If we concentrated on the really important stuff in life, there'd be a shortage of fishing poles" - Anon
- "Modern civilization is so complex as to make the devotional life all but impossible. It wears us out by multiplying distractions and beats us down by destroying our solitude, where otherwise we might drink and renew our strength before going out to face the world again. - A. W. Tozer
- The idolatrous heart assumes that God is other than He is - in itself a monstrous sin - and substitutes for the true God one made after its own likeness.

Always this god will conform to the image of the one who created it and will be base or pure, cruel or kind, according to the moral state of the mind from which it emerges.... - A. W. Tozer

- If men's thoughts were written on their foreheads, every man would wear his hat over his eyes, - Billy Sunday

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)



day they will teach the thousands. If you are not asked to coordinate the big meals for the church, then show hospitality every week to church families in your home. In other words, seek to "fall into the ground and die" like a grain of wheat, then see what God will do with it.

The third principle: Do what does not take a title, a group, or the church's money. What I mean is that you can do a lot of ministry if you don't care about people "knighting" you before you do it. Don't expect everyone to want to do what you are doing, and don't ask for money from the church to do it. It's perfectly OK to use your own money outside your regular giving fund. If you follow this plan, doors open all over the place. Who will hinder you if you start writing to missionaries and praying for them daily? Who will mind if you spend your own funds to take short term missions trips? Who will feel it necessary to restrain you if you voluntarily clean the building or take care of the widow's car problems? Everyone will not have the same passion you have about this or that ministry. You don't need their passion, but yours.

The fourth and most important principle: Make love the priority. I once was confronted by a woman in a church I had just begun to shepherd. In the first year of my work there, I had not given her any notable job to do. She had a

long history of leading, but I did not feel she was right for any of our positions at the time. She came to me tearfully. She was quite negative about it all. God gave me the wisdom to ask her to do this simple thing. "Go home and prayerfully write down the names of ten people with needs of any sort. Then, set out to meet those needs at a cost to yourself. Do it diligently."

The results? Within about a week, the woman was beaming and full of hope. She said, "I just can't get everything done that this list requires," which, being interpreted, meant, "I love helping others and find that there are a lot of people who really need my care." Meeting needs out of love helped her find her stride ministry-wise. She hasn't slowed down since.

These principles all considered, should lead us to say, "Nobody actually has to wait for a ministry." As the slogan states: Just Do It!

"By love, serve one another." **Galatians 5:13.**

"Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others." **Philippians 2:4.**

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

MARIJUANA AND CRIME — *By Buddy Smith*

(This past week several news outlets featured articles describing the increased potency of the marijuana grown in Australia. See below. - Ed.)

MARIJUANA IS DRUG MOST OFTEN LINKED TO CRIME, STUDY FINDS

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/2013/05/23/192101/marijuana-is-drug-most-often-linked.html#.UZ7ilaLSvTo>

WASHINGTON — Marijuana is the drug most often linked to crime in the United States, the U.S. drug czar said Thursday, dismissing calls for legalization as a "bumper-sticker approach" that should be avoided. Gil Kerlikowske, the White House director of national drug-control policy, said a study by his office showed a strong link between drug use and crime. Eighty percent of the adult males arrested for crimes in Sacramento, Calif., last year tested positive for at least one illegal drug. Marijuana was the most commonly detected drug, found in 54 percent of those arrested. The study found similar results in four other cities: New York, Denver, Atlanta and Chicago. Among the cities, it included examinations of 1,736 urine samples and 1,938 interviews with men who were arrested. Researchers found that marijuana was the most popular drug used by men who'd been arrested in all the cities, ranging from a low of 37 percent in Atlanta to a high of 58 percent in Chicago. Chicago also had the highest overall positive test results, with 86 percent of the men found to have at least one drug in their bloodstreams.

Cocaine ranked as the second most commonly found drug in all the cities, with the exception of Sacramento, where methamphetamine was No. 2, detected among 40 percent of those arrested.



Saying that drugs are fueling much of the crime in the United States, Kerlikowske used the study to make a pitch for more treatment. He said that while more than 60 percent of those arrested in the study had tested positive for at least one drug, 70 percent of the arrestees had never received any drug or alcohol treatment. As a result, he said, U.S. drug policy should be approached from a public health standpoint, not merely as a criminal justice issue. "That means addressing those factors that contribute to drug offenses, factors that all too often include the disease of addiction," Kerlikowske said in a speech at the Urban Institute, a public policy research center in Washington. "It means abandoning simplistic bumper-sticker approaches, such as boiling the issue down to a 'war on drugs' or outright legalization." Nancy La Vigne, the director of the Justice Policy Center for the Urban Institute, said in a statement that the high rates of drug use among those studied showed the need to back more prevention and treatment to "address the root cause of criminal involvement, and not just the symptoms."

Backers of the growing movement to legalize marijuana were quick to criticize the study. "The drug czar should be ashamed of himself for attempting to deceive the American people in this manner," said Steve Fox, the national political director for the Marijuana Policy Project, a pro-legalization group in Washington. "We could release a study tomorrow showing that 98 percent of arrestees in the United States drank water in the 48 hours before they engaged in criminal behavior. Does that mean that water causes crime? Fortunately, the American people are smarter than the drug czar thinks they are." Kerlikowske, a former Seattle police chief, has consistently opposed legalization since he became President Barack Obama's top drug policy adviser in 2009. His position puts him at odds with two states, Washington and Colorado, that voted in November to legalize marijuana, a controlled substance that remains illegal under federal law. With the Obama administration doing nothing so far to try to stop them, both states are proceeding with plans to begin selling marijuana for recreational use next year.

A third state, Alaska, might follow soon, with legalization supporters aiming to get the measure on the state's primary ballot in August of next year.

Fox, who's expecting California and other states to vote on legalizing marijuana in 2016, said the nation's outdated marijuana laws were turning otherwise law-abiding citizens into criminals. He had a suggestion for the drug czar: "If he wants to reduce crime in the U.S., he should join us in making marijuana legal." In his speech, Kerlikowske said it was time for the United States to "acknowledge and come to grips with the link between

crime and substance use" and ease the burden on its criminal justice system. In 2011, he said, the country had 2.4 million people incarcerated, for the highest incarceration rate in the world: 716 people per 100,000 citizens. Kerlikowske said that Obama's health-care plan, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which Congress passed in 2010, would be revolutionary for the drug policy field because for the first time it made treatment for substance-use disorders a required health benefit.

He said drug addiction "is not a moral failing, but a brain disease that can be prevented, treated, and from which people can recover."

(Ed- We know that drug addiction is not a disease, but a sin, as is alcoholism.)



CONCERN AS AUSTRALIAN CANNABIS GAINS POTENCY

<http://www.skynews.com.au/health/article.aspx?id=890744>

Cannabis in Australia has become more potent over the years and contains high levels of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), according to a study of samples confiscated from recreational users and growers. The drug has an average THC content of just under 15 per cent, according to the study by University of New South Wales (UNSW) and University of Sydney researchers. There is widespread international concern that cannabis containing high levels of THC could be associated with increased mental health risks, says study leader Dr Wendy Swift of the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre at UNSW.

There is a strong lobby in the Netherlands to classify cannabis with 15 per cent or higher THC as a hard drug.

Dr Swift's team examined the content of 206 cannabis samples confiscated under the NSW cautioning scheme for recreational users found with 15g or less. They also examined 26 samples seized from large indoor and

outdoor cultivation sites. Both sets of samples had similar potency, according to the study, which is published in the international science journal PLOS ONE. More than 40 per cent of the samples seized on the street and more than half seized from cultivation sites contained more than 15 per cent THC.

More than 85 per cent overall contained less than 0.1 per cent cannabidiol (CBD). CBD does not get users high and is thought to counteract some of the negative effects of THC. Dr Swift says the study is the first to demonstrate that, on average, cannabis in Australia is as powerful as samples measured in other countries. 'It also shows levels of CBD, which may ameliorate some of the harmful effects of THC, are extremely low. 'These results suggest the profile of cannabis currently used in Australia may make some users vulnerable to mental health problems.' More research is needed, however, to understand the full relevance of potency. 'We need to know more about the factors that affect how people respond to the drug,' Dr Swift said. 'It is important that we have a national routine monitoring system to assess trends in the profile of cannabis and to better understand its relationship with health outcomes.'



"Analysis of the cannabinoid content of cannabis plants is of interest given the likelihood that both the medicinal effects and adverse health effects of cannabis consumption may be dictated by the concentration and interplay of certain phytocannabinoids," the study states. "There is international concern over research findings suggesting that contemporary cannabis cultivation is biased towards plants with high levels of Δ^9 -tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the cannabinoid responsible for most of the psychoactive effects of cannabis, and negligible levels of cannabidiol (CBD), and other trace cannabinoids, that have therapeutic potential and may counteract some of the unpleasant effects of THC.

STUDY: AUSTRALIAN MARIJUANA STRONGEST IN THE WORLD

<http://www.celebstoner.com/news/marijuana-news/2013/07/30/australian-marijuana-strongest-in-the-world/>

U.S. pot usually averages 9% THC. In Australia, a new study claims the average there is 15% with a high of 40%. The study, conducted by the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, analyzed samples confiscated in the state of New South Wales.

A general theme of these concerns is whether cannabis is somehow a 'different' drug to that consumed in previous decades, and whether increased THC content and/or diminished levels of CBD and other trace cannabinoids is accentuating adverse effects of cannabis on mental health."

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

ILLEGAL EMIGRANTS -

Customs officials in Mexico have been warned to watch for a 1951 Chevrolet sedan being used to smuggle illegal emigrants across the Texas/Mexico border.

Apparently they decided it is cheaper to pay people smugglers to sneak them into Mexico than it is to pay for Obamacare.

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)



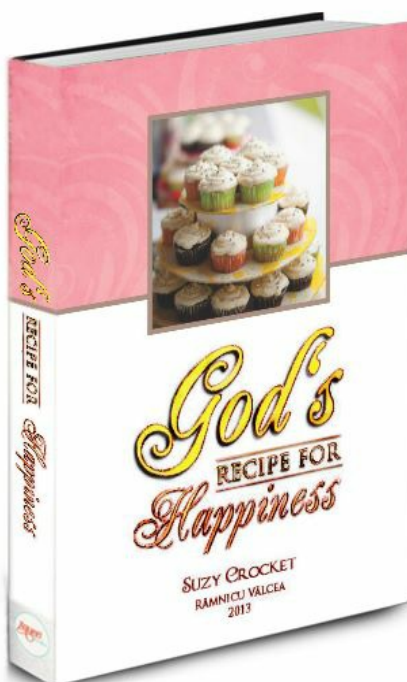


One of the truly wonderful words in the Greek New Testament is a word that is found in Matthew 5:5 when Jesus preached, *"Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth."* The word Jesus used for "meek," is the word PRAUS. That particular word is found only three times in the New Testament. It is found later in Matthew's account of the gospel in 21:5, and then in Peter's first letter in 1 Peter 3:4.

In secular Greek, the word referred to that which is "gentle and pleasant." The derivation of the word came from a wild beast that had been tamed. The animal was said to be "praus" or now made gentle. In particular a horse, that had been broken and trained to use a bit and bridle was called "praus."

Although I was not raised on farm nor had been around horses while growing up, I was always amazed at the strength of these creatures, but at the same time, they were gentle. This is where the word picture becomes so rich. Think about the strength of a horse, yet there is a gentleness about him. We might think of meekness as being "power under control." So many equate meekness with being weak, or spineless. It is far from being spineless.

There was a man in the Old Testament that is called the meekest man upon the earth. The Scriptures declare in Numbers 12:3, *"Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth."* The word meek in Hebrew is a bit different, showing more of a fullness of dependence upon God by Moses. It spoke of a great sort of humility and lack of pride or boasting in oneself. The Septuagint (the Greek translation of the Old Testament used during the time of the New Testament) uses the word "praus" to describe Moses. If there was ever a man that demonstrated strength under control, it was Moses. Sometimes, he let that strength get out of control, and the ensuing result was anger. That happened when he came off from the mountain after getting the Law, and he discovered the children of Israel worshipping the golden calf. He broke the tablets given to him by the Lord. He also showed anger when he struck the stone twice at Meribah, rather than speaking to it.



God's Recipe For Happiness

A devotional book written by missionary wife, Suzy Crocket, containing 29 lessons from the Beatitudes that teach us exactly what we need to know in order to be truly, deeply happy.

It is an excellent study resource, as well as an ideal book for use in groups (eg. Ladies Bible Study groups). The Gospel is also very clearly presented several times throughout, making it a great gift idea even for unsaved friends or loved ones.

By purchasing this book at the low cost of just **AUD\$16**, you will not only be helping yourself along the road to happiness, but you will be helping our church in Romania to be able to purchase their own building. 100% of the profits made from this book will be donated to the building fund of Biserica Baptista Independenta- "FILADELFIA" in Râmnicu Vâlcea, Romania.

All orders to be directed to: crockets4rmv@yahoo.com.au
Payment through PayPal

One that is "praus," is one that is quite literally "God-controlled" for God gives him mastery over his actions and very life. The perfect example of meekness is the Savior Himself. Even when He cleansed the Temple on two different occasions, He had His strength under perfect control. Through His arrest, mock trials, beatings, scourging, mockings in all forms, and finally crucifixion, Jesus displayed "praus" before the entire world. Yet the world missed it – as they miss it today. They took the Savior as One Who was weak, and spineless. You and I know better, for He is returning one day as the King of kings and Lord of lords. He will come back with incredible power, but that power will be under perfect control.

Is meekness part of our living before the world? It should be. A related word is found in the fruit of the Spirit, that should be found in every believer. Paul wrote in Galatians 5:22, 23, *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."* Will we live a controlled life, one controlled by the Holy Spirit? Or will we take control ourselves, just like the world, and perhaps have power, but not under the control of the King? May praus define our lives before the world.

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

A PERSONAL EVALUATION - contributed by Joye Binstead



1. Do I delight in someone else more than the Lord? **Mark 12:30** (heart)
2. Do I not desire times of fellowship in God's Word and in prayer? **Mark 12:30** (soul)
3. Do I continually reflect on other things rather than the Lord during leisure moments? **Mark 12:30** (mind)
4. Do I easily give in to those things which I know displease the Lord? **Mark 12:30** (strength)
5. Do I grudgingly give to God's work or to the needs of other people? **1 John 3:17**
6. Do I fail to treat every Christian as I would treat the Lord? **Matt 25:40**
7. Do I view the commands of Christ as restrictions to my happiness rather than expressions of His love? **John 14:21**
8. Do I inwardly strive for public acclaim more than the approval of the Lord? **1 John 2:15**
9. Do I fail to witness to others because I fear embarrassment or rejection? **John 15:20**
10. Do I offend weaker Christians because I am unwilling to give up a questionable activity? **Rom 14:15**
11. Do I overlook or ignore the sinful conditions around my life? **Matt 24:12**
12. Do I hold grudges against those who have offended me? **1 John 4:20**

Your answers to these questions will help you to see when you have left your first love and in what area you need God's grace to stay close to Him.

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

THERAPY FOR THE FUNNY BONE -

- Do illiterate people get any benefit from Alphabet Soup?
- Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in hospitals dying of nothing.
- Perils of being a drug sniffer dog.



[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

POEMS THAT MAKE US SAY "OUCH!" -

(Ed - Amy Carmichael once wrote a little poem about the Bangalore Missionary community that goes like this:)

**Onward Christian soldiers,
Sitting on the mats;
Nice and warm and cozy
Like little pussycats.
Onward Christian soldiers,
Oh, how brave are we,
Don't we do our fighting
Very comfortably?**

Amy Carmichael





Last Monday our van engine blew a head gasket and may have damaged the block. It happened over two hours away so it was a job to get the family, Reuben and David back home but we made it, thanks to fellow missionary George Hammett who quickly changed his schedule and gave up 6 hrs of his time.

Then the next day I took Samuel with me to pull the vehicle home.

The first mechanic said it could cost up to R30,000 (\$3000) to have it repaired. With Joel's recent surgery and the costs involved, that wasn't something we wanted to hear.

When I filed our tax returns this year, Debbie was in the States, so I sent the forms to our daughter where she was staying for her to sign and send on in hopes of beating the April 15th deadline.

Well, due to an unreliable postal system here, the envelope did not arrive at our daughter's place until last month (June). At my cousin's suggestion we simply made copies of what we had here and sent them in along with a note of explanation two months late.

Over the weekend the church office received an envelope from the IRS with a refund check and a note attached (I had forgotten all about any refund check!) Apparently I had figured wrongly and our dear generous president felt sorry for us, so he sent us \$300 more than expected.

The amount? \$3013

Just a reminder of our wonderful God Who knows when to supply, how much to send and who to send it to.

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

Sharpened Arrows

AS ARROWS ARE IN THE HAND OF A MIGHTY MAN,
SO ARE CHILDREN OF THE YOUTH.
Psalm 127:4

A publication of Golden West Independent Baptist Church Australia which aims to encourage and edify preachers children, youth & young adults to stand for Christ in the battle for the truth.

Lifting Up The STANDARD

"WHEN THE ENEMY SHALL COME IN LIKE A FLOOD, THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD SHALL LIFT UP A STANDARD AGAINST HIM" (ISAIAH 59:19).

An Outreach Ministry of FairHavens Baptist Church
www.fairhavensbaptist.net

CHALLENGING AND ENCOURAGING GOD'S REMNANT TO REMAIN FAITHFUL



hundreds of thousands of barbules in one feather. With the barbules hooked, the wing has a lightweight flat surface that the bird uses to push against the air. The barbules prevent air from passing through the wing on the downward motion while allowing air to pass through on the wing's upward motion.

Michael Pitman, who taught biology at Cambridge, describes the marvelous design of the flight feather: "Some large feathers contain over a million barbules,

Engineer Stuart Burgess says, "A flight feather is a masterpiece of design and is one of the most efficient structures known to man" (Hallmarks of Design, p. 38).

Jack Cohen, who is an evolutionist, nevertheless says that the flight feather is "engineered to the utmost precision" and that examining it "is a humbling process" ("Feathers and Pattern," Advances in Morphogenesis, edited by Abercrombie and Bracket, 1966, pp. 9, 12).

A "simple" pigeon feather is composed of more than one million individual parts made up of billions of cells perfectly organized into a marvel of design. The flight feather has the following three major features (adapted from Burgess, p. 39).

1. a hollow stem containing air or foam, which starts out as a circle near the root of the feather and changes into a rectangular shape which is structurally stronger;
2. barbs angle off of the stem forming the basic feather shape;
3. two sets of barbules angle off of the barbs, with one set of barbules having hooks that interlock with a set of non-hooked barbules; there can be

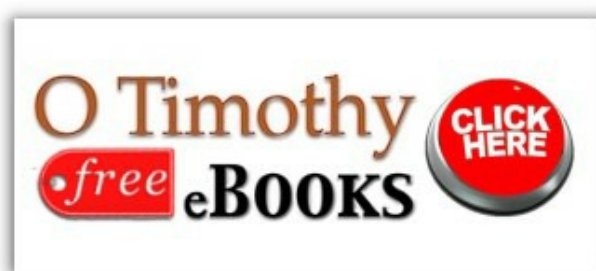
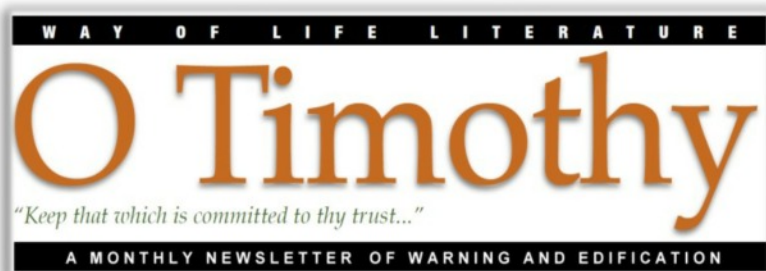
with hooks and eye-lets to match, in perfect order. The feather is useless without this interlocking mechanism which acts something like an automatic zip fastener whose disturbance preening rearranges.

When outstretched in flight, the hooks cause the whole wing-assembly to form a continuous sheet to catch the wind. The whole feather is a cohesive, elastic and light structure, well-designed to function as an air-resistant surface. Sensory receptors record its precise position. Over both wings they effect the continuous variations and fine adjustments of more than ten thousand tiny muscles attached to the bases of the feathers.

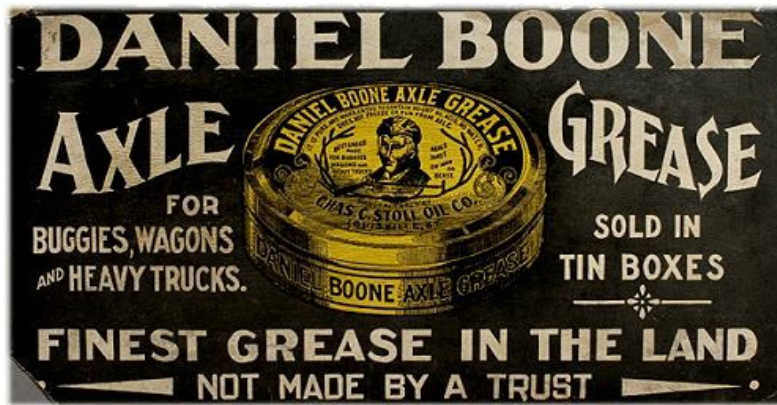
Behold the parts of a precious instrument of aerospace, unparalleled in design and workmanship by human technology" (Adam and Evolution, p. 222). There is no such things as a simple living creature or a simple organ. The entire universe testifies of an omnipotent God for those who have eyes to see.

(Friday Church News Notes, July 26, 2013, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

([Back to Table of Contents](#))



O Timothy Online Subscription \$10 a year (PDF VERSION) - Click [Here](#) to Subscribe



looked me in the eye, and said, "I could show you the possum hole where I called on the Lord to save me. Was out huntin' one day and the Lord smote my heart. Showed me how bad a sinner I was, so I just knelt down right there and begged him to take my sins away. Won't never forget it as long as I live."

We talked about the forgiveness of our sins, and how happy we were about it, and the peace that God gives when He comes in to live in us.

He was a little man, if I remember right, about sixty years old. His name is all but lost from my memory, but I think it was Loy, or something close. His little barber shop was out on a country road not far from Wheelerville, Missouri, west of Galena and south of Aurora. I don't remember a house being close to his shop, but most likely he lived on the same farm as the shop. Seems like it was Audie Johnson that told me I could get a free haircut if I went to Loy's barbershop. So I went. And learned one of the most important lessons of life.

Loy was on his own the first time I went. He sat me down in the barber chair, flicked the apron around me, adjusted the chair for height, and said, "You new around these parts?"

I said, "Yep."

"Where from?"

"West Texas."

"What brung you up this way?"

"A little church over the other side of Galena asked me to be their new preacher."

"Preacher, are you?"

"Yep."

"How long you been saved?"

" 'Bout three years."

"Best thing could ever happen to a man, getting saved."

"You said it. Shoulda done it years ago when I was a kid."

Loy kept busy clippin' and talkin' and hoppin' around like a little sparrow. He stepped around in front of the chair,

Since there was nobody waitin', Loy took an hour or so to trim me up.

When he was all done, he brushed me down good, whisked the apron off and stuck out his hand to shake mine. I reached in my pocket for money to pay and he stopped me, "No charge, son. I never ask preachers to pay. Fact is, I got no papers to say I can barber so I can't charge. People just drops in the box whatever they like. But no charge for preachers."

I thanked him and turned to go when he stopped me and taught me the first installment in The Preacher's Most Important Lesson. Somehow, the old barber saw I needed it, I think.

He said, "You know, when I was first saved I wanted to do big things for God. I wanted to be the little white horse leading the parade, with plumes on his head and fancy harness, his mane all braided, and his hooves all polished up, prancing down the street for everybody to see. That's what I wanted, yessiree Bob!"

He paused, and looked backward through the years and inward in his heart, got his thoughts all facin' the same direction, and then said, "But the Lord soon knocked that out of me and kept at it till I was willing to just be the grease on the axle. Nobody ever sees axle grease, you know. It just does its job quiet and smooth and keeps things movin' along. Oh, the driver knows about it, but the crowds never know."

And that little sermon from a little barber was worth more than all the haircuts I ever bought and paid for.

Grease on the axle.

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)



LILIES OF THE FIELD

Formerly "The Prayer Club Newsletter"

"Building Up Ourselves in the Most Holy Faith"

To receive this e-newsletter monthly, subscribe at: binsteads@bigpond.com



On the Atherton Tablelands in Tropical North Queensland - Australia

Heads Up!

A fortnightly publication produced by Pastor Buddy Smith, [Grace Baptist Church](http://www.gracebaptistmalanda.net.au), Malanda, QLD., 4885. Australia.

To be included to receive copies, please contact us by one of the following methods:

Post: P.O. Box 684, Malanda, Qld., 4885

Phone: 07 4096 6657

Email: smiletex@bigpond.net.au

Website: www.gracebaptistmalanda.net.au

Back issues of **Heads Up!**: <http://www.gracebaptistmalanda.net.au/resources.html>

Grace Baptist Church Sermon Archive: <http://www.gracebaptistmalanda.net.au/sermons.html>