



APPLES OF GOLD

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maggiemorrison2@gmail.com

➔ "Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5).

- WE HAVE HOPE, INWARD JOY, AND PEACE THAT THE WORLD DOES NOT KNOW.
- HERE IS A SONG WRITTEN ABOUT IT OVER 80 YEARS AGO. I GREW UP SINGING IT.
- THIS SONG CAN BE SUNG ONLY BY THOSE OF US WHO KNOW CHRIST PERSONALLY – EVEN IN THE MIDST OF CHAOS IN OUR WORLD.
 - What though wars may come, with marching feet and beat of the drum,
 - For I have Christ in my heart;
 - What though nations rage, as we approach the end of the age,
 - For I have Christ in my heart.
 - God is still on the throne, Almighty God is He;
 - And He cares for His own through all eternity.
 - So let come what may, whatever it is, I only say that
 - I have Christ in my heart,
 - I have Christ in my heart.
- THE WORDS AND MUSIC WERE WRITTEN BY WENDELL P. LOVELESS IN 1940. PROBABLY THOSE OF YOU WHO LIVED AROUND THAT TIME IN ILLINOIS AND SURROUNDING STATES MAY REMEMBER HIM, NOT ONLY FOR HIS IMPACT IN THE WORLD OF CHRISTIAN MUSIC, BUT THE MELODIOUS MARVELS OF HIS LYRICS.
- HE WAS THE MANAGER OF MOODY BIBLE INSTITUTE'S RADIO STATION, WMBI, IN CHICAGO FOR 25 YEARS. IN 1952 HE BECAME THE PASTOR OF THE WHEATON EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH IN WHEATON, ILLINOIS WHERE I WAS A MEMBER AND WHERE MY HUSBAND AND I WERE MARRIED TWO YEARS LATER. HE PERFORMED OUR WEDDING CEREMONY IN 1954. I HAVE A BOOK CONTAINING MOST OF HIS SONGS.



Instead of our being impacted by the news, social media, TV, radio, and movies, our privilege as believers in God's truth, God's Word, the Bible, is to change our perspective from the worldly and often satanic view, to the One who gives peace and power over sin and the flesh.

Consider this acrostic for Covid: **C**HRI**S**T **O**R**D**E**R**S **V**I**C**T**O**R**Y** **I**N**D**I**S**P**U**T**A**B**L**Y

"If the church marries herself to the spirit of the times, she will find herself a widow in the next generation." *Charles Stanley*

Before we can pray, "Lord, Thy Kingdom come," we must be willing to pray, "My Kingdom go." *Alan Redpath*

God marks across some of our days, "Will explain later." *Vance Havner*

 Our Bible is the main source of how to live and how to die. It is the one truth we can trust. At this Thanksgiving we often remember to thank God more than we usually do, but this should not be the case. We should be giving Him praise and thanksgiving every day and many times a day.

 Have you ever wondered how many times in the Bible we are told to praise Him and give thanks? The more times the better. Our verbiage and attitude of thanksgiving is also seen in prayer. How often are we admonished to pray? “Bible Gateway” tells us how often we read these words in Scripture:

PRAISE – 278
THANKS AND THANKSGIVING – 149
PRAY AND PRAYER – 581



GEMS FROM PASTOR ROB
“UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THANKSGIVING”

Ephesians 5:18 – “Be filled with the Spirit” = controlled by – and this is a command. It’s worse not to be controlled by the Spirit than it is to be drunk with wine. How are we to be filled? By drinking in the Word and by prayer. Then it changes our attitude, actions, and everything. There are two evidences of a Spirit-filled thankful heart:

1. When our voice and heart combine as an instrument of praise we sing about Jesus. We sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. We speak and sing spontaneously testifying of an experience, something God did for us. God asks “does your heart match your words?” We’re to sing with our heart.
2. When praise is consistent over time and circumstances. We are to give thanks always in all things, regardless of circumstances; even when we don’t feel it. Joseph told his brothers “You meant it for evil but God meant it for good.”
 - a. In Genesis 2:16 God tells Adam and Eve what they CAN do. We are to remember that He is the God of grace. We should focus on the positives – what we CAN do. Adam and Eve could eat of every tree in the garden.....but one.

b. Satan will always focus on what we CANNOT do or have as with Adam and Eve in the garden who could not eat of just one tree. Satan is the epitome of and fosters ingratitude. When we are ungrateful we are following that which marks Satan.

- (1) We see ingratitude in our children. It’s largely because of the rules the parents lay down. It’s obvious that it’s more prevalent in children because they are immature.
- (2) The Apostle Paul, a mature man of God didn’t blame Silas for their being in jail. Instead they sang.
- (3) Job is an amazing example of praising in spite of circumstances. He said “Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.”
- (4) Corrie ten Boom was imprisoned at Ravensbruck during World War II. Their barracks were infested with fleas. She read one morning in I Thess. 5:18 to give thanks in everything, even the fleas, for it was because of the fleas that the guards avoided their barracks and this enabled them to do their Bible study and pray openly.
- (5) Three great passages of Thanksgiving: Psalm 31:19, 84:11, and 103:2,3



HIDDEN TREASURES

Last Month’s Question: What great American president paid tribute to the Bible in these words: “There lies at the foundation of all our schooling and all our thought the incomparable and unimpeachable Word of God.” **ANSWER:** Woodrow Wilson

Next Month’s Question: What famous American president said “It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible?”

<p>Police officer: "Your truck is heavily overloaded. I simply cannot let you continue like that. I'm going to have to take away your driver's license."</p> <p>Driver: "You're kidding me, right? The license can only weigh one ounce!"</p>	<p>Grandma: "Oh, what a nice pair of new boots! Where did you get them?" </p> <p>Granddaughter: "At the store."</p> <p>Grandma: "Which one?"</p> <p>Granddaughter: "Both of them."</p>	<p>I renewed my car insurance over the phone today, and as I was about to hang up the woman on the other end asked if I had a pet. I said, "Yes, I've got a dog." She asked, "Would you like to insure him too?" I said, "No thanks, he can't drive!"</p>
<p>Customer: Waiter, I'm in a hurry! Will the pancakes be long?</p> <p>Waiter: No sir, round. </p>	<p>My dentist was voted "Dentist Of The Year."</p> <p>He didn't get a trophy, they just gave him a little plaque.</p>	<p>I told my cat that I'm going to teach him to speak English.</p> <p>He looked at me and said, "Me, how?"</p>
<p>James was listening to a Bible story.</p> <p>His dad read: 'The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city but his wife looked back and was turned to salt.' Concerned, James asked: 'What happened to the flea?'</p>	<p>A policeman brought four boys before a judge. "They were causing an awful lot of commotion at the zoo, your Honor," he said. "Boys," said the judge sternly, "I never like to hear reports of juvenile delinquency. Now I want each of you to tell me your name and what you were doing wrong." </p> <p>"My name is George," said the first boy, "and I threw peanuts into the elephant pen." "My name is John," said the second boy, "and I threw peanuts into the elephant pen." "My name is Mike," said the third boy, "and I threw peanuts into the elephant pen." "My name is Peanuts," said the fourth boy.</p>	



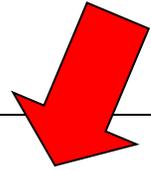
FOR AND ABOUT SENIORS

You Know You're Getting Old When...

- Everything that works hurts, and what doesn't hurt doesn't work.
- Your address book only contains names ending in M.D.
- Your children are beginning to look middle-aged.
- Your mind makes contracts your body can't keep.
- Your knees buckle and your belt won't.
- Your back goes out more than you do.
- You sink your teeth into a steak, and they stay there.
- You know all the answers, but nobody asks the questions.
- You and your teeth don't sleep together.
- You try to straighten out the wrinkles in your socks and discover you aren't wearing any.
- At the breakfast table you hear snap, crackle, pop and you're not eating cereal.
- Your back goes out but you stay home.
- It takes two tries to get up from the couch.
- You're on vacation and your energy runs out before your money does.
- You step off a curb and look down one more time to make sure the street is still there.
- Your idea of weight lifting is standing up.
- It takes longer to rest than it did to get tired.
- You sit in a rocking chair and can't get it going.
- The pharmacist has become your new best friend.

Our Rights

by Harold J. Sala



Recently I was listening to Elisabeth Elliot on BBN. She's a great lady and one who is highly respected, especially by those of us who are born again believers in Christ. While she and her husband were in South America as missionaries, her husband, along with four other missionaries, was brutally murdered by the Auca (Waorani) Indians. It was 1955 and Jim and Elisabeth Elliot had only been married two years and their first and only child, Valerie, was 10 months old. Her second husband died of cancer after a little over four years of marriage. She has now been married to Lars, her third husband for over 30 years. I've quoted her often and have received permission from her to do so.

This time I was driving so I couldn't take notes, but I heard one powerful statement. She was speaking about our relationship with Jesus, our surrender to Him, and our obedience. She is a marvelous example of all those qualities. Here it is: "**We are to give up the right to ourselves.**"

No doubt "self" is the "boogey man" often rearing its ugly unwelcome head. We go through life with the mistaken idea that we have certain rights. We deserve certain things. Yes, I know there's a statement in our Declaration of Independence that says "All men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." That's a man-made document. Granted, our nation was founded on many biblical principles, but do we really have all those rights? One overpowering biblical concept comes to mind here. It is only by God's grace that we have life. He gave us physical life, and for those who accept Jesus as Saviour, He gives us spiritual life. Now as His children, " ...then heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together" (Rom. 8:17), we are joint heirs by grace alone. Grace is a gift. We can't earn it. Grace is receiving what we don't deserve. We live because of God's grace.

I DO NOT HAVE A RIGHT TO...

1. A mate who never hurts or deserts me
2. Be spared pain and suffering
3. Comfortable homes/shelter
4. Drive cars that never break down
5. Easy childbirth experiences
6. Expect love and help from others
7. Food on my table
8. Freedom
9. Good health
10. Healthy children
11. Heaven unless I'm a member of God's forever family by faith; then it's only by God's grace – the gift of salvation
12. Invent my own god, religion, and way to Heaven
13. Jobs/employment
14. Joy and happiness
15. Life itself
16. Make demands of God and question His leading and His will
17. Prosperity
18. Safety
19. A trouble-free life

God's gift to us who are His children by faith in Jesus as our Saviour.

God's
Riches
At
Christ's
Expense

"It does not matter if the adversity you are facing originated with Satan. Receive it as if it were from God. You know that nothing can happen to you unless He allows it. And if He allows it, He must certainly have a purpose in it." (Charles Stanley)

In order to see the rainbow, you must first endure some rain!

"Heaven is not here, it's There. If we were given all we wanted here, our hearts would settle for this world rather than the next. God is forever luring us up and away from this one, wooing us to Himself and His still invisible Kingdom, where we will certainly find what we so keenly long for." (Elisabeth Elliot)

Marjorie R. Morrison (Mrs. C.E.)

703 Oakhurst

Kernersville, NC 27284

