

## PRECIOUS IN THE LONG RUN



It was November 19, 1863 at a dedication ceremony of a war memorial. The president had just finished making his speech, and was returning to his seat. In shame and embarrassment Abraham Lincoln turned to one of his aides and said, "That speech won't scour. It is a flat failure." And on that winter afternoon, others were saying the same thing. "It is not what I had expected," said one. "I am disappointed," added a general.

The newspapers weren't as nice. One called it "ignorant rudeness" that the President's speech - following a 2-hour oration by a statesman - would consist of only 10 sentences and take only 2 minutes 15 seconds to deliver the 271 words. Other newspapers said it was "dull ... commonplace ... in bad taste ... silly ... flat and dishwatery."

That "flop" of a speech, by the way, was Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address" as we call it today. It is now held to be one of the classic orations in our history.

Time tends to prove all of us to be fools from time to time. It is consistently shown that opinions of the moment are not good over the scope of years. We are poor judges of what is good or bad because tastes and fashions change. What our generation considers wonderful at the moment may not even be remembered by the next.

That is what God has been telling us all along. It is the world that always laughs at the child of God for the faith he holds. Few generations have ever held it popular to be right or to do right. Yet the Christian must go on walking by a different rule. "In no way be alarmed by your opponents." Paul said in Philipians 1:28, "Do not fear intimidation," added Peter, "and do not be troubled." (1 Peter 3:14).

A Christian, then, cannot bow to the world and dance to its tune. He must walk by faith, doing what is right no matter what; trusting that eternity will consider his work to be good, even if time doesn't. That is what faith is all about.

- David Lusk, via *Bulletin Digest*

## ATTITUDE

Attitude is the name of the game. Have you ever noticed how much attention Jesus gives to our attitude? Our attitude toward God, our fellowman, sin, and law are extremely important. Once our attitude is correct, the right behavior follows.

A good example is found in Ephesians 4:26, "Be angry, and sin not." If our attitude toward God and our fellowman is right, we can become angry without allowing that anger to become sin.

Jesus gave us by far the greatest example of a proper attitude in the garden. His attitude toward the Father was, "Thy will be done." All of us from tie to time have to give in and over to higher callings. Let's pray that our attitude toward God, the church, the elders, and the lost, is one that is acceptable and pleasing to God. Change my attitude, and you have changed me.

- Samuel Long, via *Bulletin Digest*

*The real measure of man's wealth is what he has invested in eternity*

## News & Notes

**SPEAKER THIS MORNING:** While Rico concludes the meeting at East Liverpool, Will Montgomery will teach the Bible class and have the morning sermon.

**BAPTISM:** Jim Mick.

**SYMPATHY:** To Stan & Peggy Williams at the passing of Stan's brother, Charles, in Florida. Also to Bill Stillwell at the passing of a cousin in the Pittsburgh area.

**CARD SHOWER:** This evening for Merv & Scharlotte Jones to honor them on their recent marriage. This will be at the Fellowship Building after our evening service. Cake & ice cream will be served.

**CARE & SHARE BEARS:** Each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. All the ladies are invited to participate in this good work.

**MEN'S LEADERSHIP CLASSES:** Each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. All the men are urged to attend this instructive class.

**AREA MEN'S BREAKFAST:** This coming Saturday, May 13th, 8:30 a.m. at the Columbiana, OH Church of Christ.

**SUMMER CAMP APPLICATIONS:** On the desk in the foyer.

**PANTRY:** Baked beans.

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Cindy Miskimen requests prayers for her dad, Lewis Call who is now in hospice care.

**SICK & SHUT-IN:** Eva Stefl, Betty Henthorne, Doris Dunham. **FOX NURSING HOME:** Mary Nelson. **CROSSROADS:** Sarah Miller, Jim Mick, **CALCUTTA HEALTH CARE:** Ella Beagle. **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl.

## THE SECRET OF CONTENTMENT

In a cemetery in England there is a grave marker with this inscription:  
*She Died For Want Of Things*

Now alongside that stone is another which reads: *He Died Trying To Give Them To Her.*

Whether posterity in all honesty would inscribe such epitaphs or not might be questioned. However, they could have been true.

I ask, how much does it take to make one content? Very little, if one's heart is set on being content: "But having food and covering we shall be therewith content." (1 Timothy 6:8). Why be content? We brought nothing into the world and cannot take anything out.

I remember an old Cracker Jack slogan said, "The more you eat the more you want."

Perhaps Solomon has a more definite approach to life's situations: "He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance, with increase." (Eccl. 5:10). Solomon is telling us, that when accumulation becomes our consuming passion, one will never accumulate enough to bring satisfaction. I believe he is also suggesting that things are servants, not masters.

All material benefits are put in their proper perspective by one simple statement by Jesus, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you!" Dennis DeHaan said, "Fret not for want of earthly things; they'll never satisfy. The secret of contentment is to let the Lord supply."

- Leonard Brimberry, via *Bulletin Digest*