

Quote

"There's no one you can save who can't be saved..." —John Lennon, *"All You Need is Love."*



"God is the Savior of all mankind, especially of believers..."
—1 Timothy 4:10

Life

Got Me Pegged

The snow is starting to melt here today. Thanks to global warming, this has been one of the coldest winters on record. The cold has been bitter, and "bitter" can also describe the manner of my complaining. I know I shouldn't mutter about things, but I still do sometimes. I believe the Concordant Literal New Testament calls it "murmuring." It's what the Israelites did when they came out of Egypt. When the Israelites complained to Moses for the 92nd time that they missed their precious leeks, the Living Bible quotes Moses as saying, "Bitch, bitch, bitch..." And that they did. As you know, I don't see very many Christian bumper stickers that I like. I did see one, however, that seemed about right: BE PATIENT; GOD ISN'T FINISHED WITH ME YET. Yeah. That one has me pegged.

Martin Zender's Clanging Gong News

"If I know all mysteries and all knowledge, but have no love, I am a clanging gong" --1 Cor. 13:1-2



Two out of three isn't bad.

Did You Watch The Super Bowl?

I watched the Super Bowl this year with my family. A new addition this year was my youngest son's girlfriend Sydnee, who baked Brownies and included with them a jar of hot fudge sauce. On top of this, Melody made her homemade pizza. If all this wasn't bad/good enough, JB (my youngest son's middle name is Jefferson Benjamin) came home from his grocery store job with a gallon of vanilla ice cream. It was not a good night for the healthy eating habits of yours truly. Neither was it a good night for the Arizona Cardinals.

I am not one of those crazy Steeler fans. I hated the Steelers when I was young because my dad was a Cleveland Browns fan, so naturally I became a Browns fan, like him. The Browns are a great football team, with the exception of the last thirty years. My life has improved greatly since I stopped caring about the Browns. Not caring about the Browns means that I can sort of like the Steelers.

Well, I went too far there. At least I can respect their talent.

Nevertheless, I was so tired of the Steelers winning, that, on Super Bowl night, in-between my sugar highs and the corresponding troughs, I rooted for Arizona.



God help this poor kid.

Did I ever feel sorry for quarterback Kurt Warner when, at the end of the first half and a few yards away from a touchdown, he threw an interception. The gigantic player who intercepted the pass (can't remember his name, sorry; number 92), lumbered an improbable 100 yards to score on the longest play in Super Bowl history. This ended up costing the Cardinals the game.

The Super Bowl is probably the epitome of earthly glory. One little mistake (or in the case of the Cleveland Browns, lots of big mistakes) makes the difference between a winner and a loser. How terrible. In the Beijing

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Necessary Evils, i.e., Computers

Who is me in the computer department. After 10 years with my Dell Dimension and running Windows ME (which worked miraculously for me, by the way), I bought an HP Pavilion. I'm gearing up for big things, you know. The Pavilion runs Windows Vista, which is supposed to be the

greatest operating system in the world. The world has discovered, however, that Vista is a dog. Woof-woof; this thing barks worse than a Browns fan. It will not properly run the software with which I will edit my new videos. And now, it will not even recognize my CD/DVD drive.

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Super Bowl...

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Olympics, what's-his-name the swimmer won one of his gold medals by 1/100th of a second. That's ridiculous. In the Olympics, the difference between winner and "thanks for coming," is often less than a second.

Thank God it's not that way in the Body of Christ.



This is the lesson I got from the Olympics, and from the Super Bowl. Our success does not depend upon last second

field goals, or the other team intercepting us, or us touching the wall a fraction of a second before a competitor. In fact, with God, even our good intentions count for something. We win because Christ won. None of our work for the sake of the Lord goes for naught. All we need is endurance. Just don't leave the field, people. At least show up. Even on your worst day, if you at least show up for the game, it counts for something.

Show up for the game. ■

What a Revelation!

In Paul's day, teachers are not limited to the local ecclesia. They were to minister to the Body of Christ as a whole, wherever there was a need. Pastors are different. In order to pastor a flock, the pastor must know his sheep. There was no such thing, in Paul's day, as a roving pastor. These two callings still exist today, and a person does not require a license from a theological institution to exercise them. God Himself does the calling.

Necessary Evils...

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I have three people helping me, offering me several options. The option that most appeals to me at the moment is taking this computer back to Best Buy before my 15 days is up and buying one that has Windows XP Pro pre-loaded. Yes, they still make such computers, and I hope they keep doing it. XP has proven to be a very stable system. People tell me that it does something that not even Vista can do: IT WORKS!



Windows Vista™

AND THE LORD GOD SAID:
"THOU ART CURSED AMONG ALL
OPERATING SYSTEMS!"

Q&A

Since Paul is called "An apostle of Jesus Christ" in Ephesians 1:1, and since Peter is also called "An apostle of Jesus Christ" in 1 Peter 1:1, doesn't this prove that they preached the same gospel?

Ronald Regan and Barack Obama both share the title, "President of the United States." Does this mean that their policies and governing methods are the same? Besides, you are misquoting Ephesians 1:1. Peter does call himself an apostle of Jesus Christ, but Paul calls himself "An apostle of *Christ Jesus*." He puts "Christ" first; Peter does not. This is no accident. "Christ" is our Lord's exalted title, whereas "Jesus" associates us first with His humanity. Israel knows our Lord in accord with flesh; they are looking for an earthly kingdom. We no longer know Him in accord with flesh (2 Cor. 5:16), and are seated with Him among the celestials (Eph. 2:6).

The Christian "Great Commission" greatly mis-timed

Much is made in Christian circles these days of the "Great Commission." This is taken from Matthew 28, the last few verses of the chapter. Jesus is ready to ascend to heaven and He tells His disciples, "Given to Me was all authority in heaven and on the earth. Going, then, disciple all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the holy spirit, teaching them to be keeping all, whatever I direct you. And lo! I am with you all the days till the

conclusion of the eon! Amen!"

Then He *left* them. Hm. What a strange way to be *with* them. And the disciples never once baptized anyone in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the holy spirit. Hm. When He said he would be with them all the days till the conclusion of the eon, I wonder which eon He meant?

HINT:

THE NEXT ONE!