



## *People Spot Missile: On Being Grateful*

One family decided it was time to look for the dream home at last. To begin that process they called a realtor to begin the process of selling their home. The realtor took down all the pertinent information and then returned to the office to prepare an appropriate prospectus. A week later the realtor returned with a sheet of appropriate pictures and a description of the house. The husband and wife exchanged glances of amazement. They looked at each other and nodded. The husband announced, “we can’t go through with this.” The realtor responded, “What in the world are you talking about?” The husband explained, “You see, we have been thinking about our dream home. As you described this house in your promotional piece, it became apparent that we already had our dream house, we just didn’t know it.” God has given us many blessings. Sometimes we just need to be grateful for what we have already.

God is so good. Praise His holy name. He knows what is best for us. The Bible never calls us to be successful but clearly calls us to be obedient. Obedience and faithfulness are always rewarded. Maybe not always in the way we would like but...

I knew a man named Paul Wade. He was serving the New Baltimore Church of God. It was a very small church on the South Mountain. Paul pastored there for years. There were Sundays when he was the only person there. There were others when there might be just 2 or 3 folks. But he stayed at it. Roy Daywalt and his family began to attend and eventually became the pastor. The congregation is alive and vibrant averaging 50 now. They have begun a Heritage Center and Museum. The curator is Lee Daywalt. I praise God for Paul Wade’s faithfulness for years. Had the New Baltimore Church of God closed, the vibrant ministry now occurring there would not exist.

Have you ever driven by a pasture field. One of the cows has their head stuck through the fence eating the grass on the other side of the fence. That is where the phrase comes from, “the grass is greener on the other side of the fence.”

I was talking with a pastor who asked if he should consider moving. I asked him to describe his church. He did so very eloquently. Then I asked, “why would you want to consider leaving such a fine church? You know where all the potholes are here. You go someplace else it may take you several years to discover them.”

I get up in the morning and am grateful for the day God has given. “Thank you Lord for another day! What surprises do you have for me today?” I recently saw a saying on “Good Morning” I loved it. *“Be the kind of woman that when your feet hit the floor each morning the Devil says “Oh crap, she’s up!” My first thought after reading it was, “wouldn’t it be great to know that each morning when we awake, that the Devil is scared of us!” The Bible tells us that we can overcome the Devil if we just put on the whole armor of God. Stand, therefore, with truth like a belt around your waist, righteousness like armor on your chest, and your feet sandaled with readiness for the gospel of peace. In every situation take the shield of faith and with it you will be able to extinguish the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is God’s word. Ephesians 6:14-17*

There are three rules that I strive to live by. They are not easy, but I work very hard to follow them. When I do, life goes so much better.

Rule number 1: Don’t worry until you have something to worry about! I have heard others say 95% of what we worry about never comes to pass. So why worry?

Rule number 2: Don’t take it personal unless it is a compliment. For me, because of who I am as a person, this has been the most difficult. Not sure why but some people get their jollies zapping and belittling others. Sometimes I think people try to build themselves up by tearing others down. It doesn’t work. We just need to ignore them and move on and protect our person.

Rule number 3: If they love, you they will understand. If they don’t love you, it doesn’t matter what they think at all.

I was having a delightful conversation with a brother Christian. Both of us were upbeat and positive. I called him by name and said, you’re a child of the King, I named his parents and said you are a son of . . . , I named his wife and said, you are the husband of . . . Then I commented, it doesn’t get any better than that. He agreed, we smiled and went on our merry way.

We ought always have a spirit of gratitude in our hearts for each day the Lord gives, and for each of the many blessings that come our way. We ought also to be grateful that we don’t get what we deserve. God is good! All the time!

*I am now available to present “The Role of the Church in the Civil War”, “Starting a New Service”, “Churches Have Personalities”, “People Spots”, “Does Your Church Really Care About People?” and “A Christian Perspective on Leadership Skills.” “Stewardship and Managing Debt” jm*

***Volumes 1, 2, and 3—“A History of the Civil War as Presented by the Church Advocate!” are now available. Volume 4 is well under way and will be the final volume. It is a history without the varnish of revision.***

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