

MONDAY

Bible verses through the Gospel of John

JOHN 4:52-53 *The father of the dying boy asked them what time his son began to get better. They said, "The fever broke yesterday afternoon at one o'clock." The father knew that that was the very moment Jesus had said, "Your son lives."*

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Back in the 50's there was a well known radio host/comedian/song writer in Hollywood named Stuart Hamblen who was noted for his drinking, womanizing, partying, etc. One of his bigger hits at the time was "I wont go hunting with you Jake, but I'll go chasing women."

One day, along came a young preacher holding a tent revival. Hamblen had him on his radio show presumably to poke fun at him. In order to gather more material for his show, Hamblen showed up at one of the revival meetings. Early in the service the preacher announced, "There is one man in this audience who is a big fake." There were probably others who thought the same thing, but Hamblen was convinced that he was the one the preacher was talking about (some would call that conviction) but he was having none of that.

Still the words continued to haunt him until a couple of nights later he showed up drunk at the preacher's hotel door around 2AM demanding that the preacher pray for him! But the preacher refused, saying, "This is between you and God and I'm not going to get in the middle of it." But he did invite Stuart in and they talked until about 5 AM at which point Stuart dropped to his knees and with tears, cried out to God.

But that is not the end of the story. Stuart quit drinking, quit chasing women, quit everything that was 'fun.' Soon he began to lose favor with the Hollywood crowd. He was ultimately fired by the radio station when he refused to accept a beer company as a sponsor.

Hard times were upon him. He tried writing a couple of "Christian" songs but the only one that had much success was "This Old House", written for his friend Rosemary Clooney.

As he continued to struggle, a long time friend named John took him aside and told him, "All your troubles started when you 'got religion,' was it worth it all?" Stuart answered simply, "Yes."

Then his friend asked, "You liked your booze so much, don't you ever miss it?" And his answer was, "No." John then said, "I don't understand how you could give it up so easily."

And Stuart's response was, "It's no big secret. All things are possible with God." To this John said, "That's a catchy phrase. You should write a song about it." And as they say, "The rest is history." The song Carl Stuart Hamblen wrote was "It Is No Secret."

"It is no secret what God can do. What He's done for others, He'll do for you. With arms wide open, He'll welcome you. It is no secret, what God can do...."

By the way . . . the friend was John Wayne. And the young preacher who refused to pray for Stuart Hamblen? ...That was Billy Graham.

Bonnie in Texas via Mr. Mom's Mailing List

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A guy goes to a girl's house for the first time and she shows him into the living room. She excuses herself to go to the kitchen to serve their coffee. As he's standing there alone, he notices a cute little vase on the mantel.

He picks it up and as he's looking at it, she walks back in. He says, "What's this?" She says, "Oh, my father's ashes are in there."

He turns beat red in horror and goes, "I'm so sorry, oh..I..."

She says, "Yeah, he's too lazy to go to the kitchen to get an ashtray." *Humor*



TUESDAY

John 4:54 *That clinched it. Not only he but his entire household believed. This was now the second sign Jesus gave after having come from Judea into Galilee.*

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Jill walked up to an airport ticket counter and asked to buy a round trip ticket.

"Where to?" Asked the smiling ticket agent.

Jill rolled her eyes and said, "Duuuuuh, back here!" *Humor*

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43% of all statistics are useless. *Laugh & Lift*

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"Jesus did not say, 'Come to Me and get it over with.' He said, 'If any man would come after Me, let him take up his cross daily and follow Me.' Daily is the key word. Our commitment to Christ, however genuine and whole-hearted it may be today, must be renewed tomorrow...and the day after that...and that day after that. - *Louis Cassels*

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I just met with a person recently that I hadn't seen in a few years. He is someone that has always had a heart for ministry and had "great plans" of all he'd like to do for God, and indeed is currently attending Bible college. But as I listened to him tell me about the sin he's been involved in since I last saw him, culminating in a very serious situation for which he may be facing multiple years in jail, my heart was just breaking inside. As I listened to stories of repeated sexual sin, drug use, drinking, anger, bitterness, all while also being enrolled in Bible College and studying for the ministry, it just broke my heart.

But you know what? It breaks my heart not just for him, but because this is sadly just another tale of what is VERY common within the Body of Christ. The amount of worldliness among those that call themselves Christians is absolutely off-the-charts. We've lost the "fear of the Lord" (if we ever had it) and have been

pushing the grace envelope as far as we can. The Bible talks about many in the Day of Judgment who will say "Lord, Lord" - notice these are people that call Jesus "Lord", but He will tell them to depart because He never knew them. I suspect there are many who think they are A-OK with Jesus, that will find out differently and it will be absolutely tragic. We need to repent. And we need to do it now. *Chris Long, end of Laugh & Lift*

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A man rushed into a busy doctor's office and shouted "Doctor! Doctor! I think I'm shrinking!" The doctor calmly responded, "Now, settle down. You'll just have to be a little patient." *Monday Fodder*

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Last night I took a journey To a land across the seas, I did not go by boat or plane, I traveled on my knees. I saw so many people there In deepest depths of sin, But Jesus told me I should go, That there were souls to win

But I said , "Jesus, I cannot go And work with such as these." He answered quickly, "Yes you can By traveling on your knees" He said, "you pray; I'll meet the need, You call and I will hear, be concerned about lost souls, Of those both far and near."

And so I tried it, knelt in prayer, Gave up some hours of ease; I felt the Lord right by my side While traveling on my knees.

As I prayed on and saw souls saved And twisted bodies healed, and saw God's workers' strength renewed while laboring on the field.

I said, "Yes, Lord, I have a job, My desire Thy will to please; I can go and heed Thy call By traveling on my knees" *by Jared Drew via Monday Fodder*



WEDNESDAY

John 5:1-6 *Soon another Feast came around and Jesus was back in Jerusalem. Near the Sheep Gate in Jerusalem there was a pool, in Hebrew called Bethesda, with five alcoves. Hundreds of sick people—blind, crippled, paralyzed—were in these alcoves. One man had been an invalid there for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him stretched out by the pool and knew how long he had been there, he said, "Do you want to get well?"*

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Nonie Darwish was born in Cairo and spent her childhood in Egypt and Gaza before immigrating to America in 1978, when she was eight years old. Her father died while leading covert attacks on Israel . He was a high-ranking Egyptian military officer stationed with his family in Gaza

In her latest book, Darwish warns about creeping sharia law - what it is, what it means, and how it is manifested in Islamic countries.

Treatment of Women under Muslim Law:

In the Muslim faith a Muslim man can marry a child as young as 1 year old and have sexual intimacy with this child. Consummating the marriage by 9. The dowry is given to the family in exchange for the woman (who becomes his slave.)

Even though a woman is abused she cannot obtain a divorce. To prove rape, the woman must have (4) male witnesses. Often after a woman has been raped in a sham marriage, she is returned to her family and the family must return the dowry. The family has the right to execute her (an honor killing) to restore the honor of the family. Husbands can beat their wives 'at will' and he does not have to say why he has beaten her.

In the West World (America & UK) Muslim men are starting to demand Shariah Law so the wife cannot obtain a divorce and he can have full and complete control of her. It is amazing and alarming how many of our sisters and daughters attending American Universities are now marrying Muslim men and submitting themselves and their children unsuspectingly to the Shariah law.

By passing this on, enlightened American & UK women may avoid becoming a slave under Shariah Law.

Westerners generally assume all religions encourage a respect for the dignity of each individual. Islamic law (Sharia) teaches that non-Muslims should be subjugated or killed in this world.

While Westerners tend to think in terms of religious people developing a personal understanding of and relationship with God, Sharia advocates executing people who ask difficult questions that could be interpreted as criticism.

While Westerners are accustomed to an increase in religious tolerance over time, Darwish explains how Muslim controlled petro dollars are being used to grow an extremely intolerant form of political Islam as it is spread abroad.

In twenty years there will be enough Muslim voters in the U.S. To elect the President by themselves! Rest assured they will do so... You can look at how they have taken over several towns in the USA.. Dearborn Mich. Is one... And there are others... *Anonymous.*

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A couple months ago, I entered a contest and ended up winning a few acres of swamp land below the flood plane in Mississippi. Before I knew it, right after that I won a \$250,000 house, so naturally I built it on my new land. Last week, I won enough money in the lottery to quit my job and move down there for good. And just last night, as sat on my new porch watching the rain and listening to the thunder, it all started to sink in. *Monday Fodder*

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It was important in Shakespeare's day that women be chased.
(student answer on an English History Exam) *Humor Digest*



THURSDAY

John 5:7 *The sick man said, "Sir, when the water is stirred, I don't have anybody to put me in the pool. By the time I get there, somebody else is already in."*

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A decade ago an editorial writer was caught plagiarizing six paragraphs of another newspaper's editorial. Instead of accepting his resignation, executives reassigned him to the circulation department. This person was fired five years later for inflating circulation numbers. If we fail to penalize "wrong" at the earliest stages, more immoral behavior will follow."

The old saying, 'What we allow, we encourage' says it all.
Andrew's and Elliot's comment on Plagiarism

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Geographical Oddities...

Damascus, Syria, was flourishing a couple of thousand years before Rome was founded in 753 BC, making it the oldest continuously inhabited city in existence.

Istanbul, Turkey, is the only city in the world located on two continents - Europe and Asia.

Los Angeles' full name is: El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora la Reina de Los Angeles de Porciuncula -- and can be abbreviated to 3.63% of its full name: L.A.

In the Sahara Desert, there is a town named Tidikelt, Algeria, which did not receive a drop of rain for ten years. Technically though, the driest place on Earth is in the valleys of the Antarctic near Ross Island. There has been no rainfall there for two million years.

The deepest hole ever drilled by man is the Kola Super deep Borehole, in Russia. It reached a depth of 12,261 meters (about 40,226 feet or 7.62 miles). It was drilled for scientific research and gave up some unexpected discoveries, one of which was a huge deposit of hydrogen - so massive that the mud coming from the hole was boiling with it.

The Eisenhower interstate system requires that one mile in every five must be straight. These straight sections are usable as airstrips in times of war or other emergencies.

Antarctica is the only land on our planet that is not owned by any country. Ninety percent of the world's ice covers Antarctica. This ice also represents seventy percent of all the fresh water in the world. As strange as it sounds, however, Antarctica is essentially a desert; the average yearly total precipitation is about two inches. Although covered with ice (all but 0.4% of it, ice.), Antarctica is the driest place on the planet, with an absolute humidity lower than the Gobi desert. *Carolyn Olkives*

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A college professor asked his class a question. "If Philadelphia is 100 miles from New York and Chicago is 1000 miles from Philadelphia and Los Angles is 2000 miles from Chicago, how old am I?"

One student in the back of the class raised his hand and when called upon said, "Professor you're 44.."

The Professor said "You're absolutely correct, but tell me, how did you arrive at the answer so quickly?"

The student said. "You see professor, I have a brother; he's 22, and he's half nuts." *Humor*

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- If swimming is so good for your figure, how do you explain whales? *Preaching Now*



FRIDAY

John 5:8-9 *Jesus said, "Get up, take your bedroll, start walking." The man was healed on the spot. He picked up his bedroll and walked off.*

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- I had amnesia once -- maybe twice.
- I went to San Francisco. I found someone's heart.
- All I ask is a chance to prove money can't make me happy.
 - I'd give my right arm to be ambidextrous.
 - They told me I was gullible, and I believed them.
 - What if there were no hypothetical questions?
- One nice thing about egotists is that they don't talk about other people.
 - A flashlight is a case for holding dead batteries.
 - I used to be indecisive. Now, I'm not sure.
 - Is there another word for synonym?
- Show me a man with both feet firmly on the ground, and I'll show you a man who can't get his pants off.
 - Is it my imagination, or do buffalo wings taste like chicken? *From Preaching Now*

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"For the first time in her life, Western Oregon University's Sara Tucholsky not only hit a home run in a game against Central Washington University, but she hit it over the fence.

"She had passed first base and was on her way to second base when she collapsed. Something had happened to her knee and she couldn't run. No one on her team could help her around the bases because if they touched her, she'd be out. That's when her opponents from Central Washington picked her up and carried her around the bases and across the home plate.

'My whole team was crying. It touched a lot of people,' says Tucholsky." *Daily Encounter*

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A friend was lecturing in Latin America. He was going to use a translator, but to identify with his audience, he wanted to begin his talk by saying in Spanish, "Good evening, ladies and gentlemen." He arrived at the auditorium a little early and realized he did not know the Spanish words for "ladies and gentlemen." Being rather resourceful, he went to the part of the building where the restrooms were, looked at the signs on the two doors, and memorized those two words.

When the audience arrived and he was introduced, he stood up and said in Spanish what he thought was, "Good evening, ladies and gentlemen." The audience was shocked. The people seemed stunned.

He didn't know whether he had offended them or perhaps they hadn't heard him or understood him. So he decided to repeat it. Again in Spanish he said, "Good evening, ladies and gentlemen." One person in the audience began to snicker. Pretty soon the entire audience was laughing. Finally, someone told him that he had said, "Good evening, toilets and broom closets!" *Humor*