

The Bible Banner

FALSITY

TRUTH

December 2023



Whatsoever Things are True

A missionary who was speaking to a group of Hindu women was surprised to see one of them get up and walk away. Soon she returned and listened more intently than before.

"Why did you leave in the middle of my message?" asked the missionary.

"I was so interested in the wonderful things you were saying that I went to ask your servant if you live like you teach. He said you do. So I came back to hear more about Jesus," said the woman.

Banana Nut Muffin Tops

3 big bananas, mashed	1/3 cup olive oil (light)
1/2 cup sucanat or coconut sugar	1/4 cup soy or nut milk
1 cup nuts, chopped (pecans)	1 cup quick oats
1/2-3/4 cup spelt or white whole wheat flour	

Mix oil, sucanat and bananas. Add dry ingredients with nuts last. Spoon into 18 oiled muffin cups. (Remember, these are unleavened muffin tops, so the batter won't be as deep as regular muffins.) Bake at 350°F (175°C) for about 30 minutes or until lightly browned.

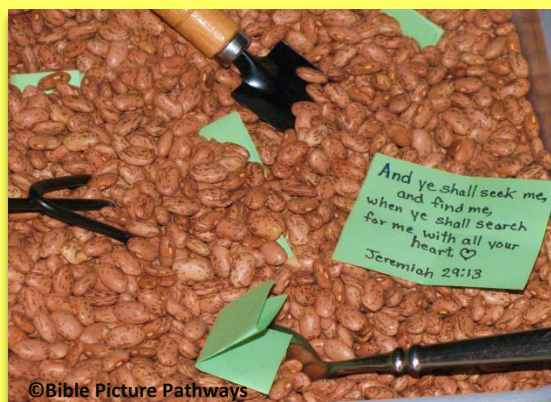


QUOTABLE QUOTES

"We best oppose error by promoting a solid knowledge of the word of truth, and the greatest kindness we can do to children is to make them early to know the Bible."

-- Matthew Henry

PROFITABLE TRADITIONS CULTIVATE BIBLE KNOWLEDGE



Write scripture texts you want to memorize on little slips of paper and fold them. Hide them in a container full of dried beans or lentils. Have the kids dig for the hidden treasure with spoons, little shovels, or their hands. Memorize the texts they find one or two at a time. When a text is memorized, let them dig for a new hidden treasure.

Visit <https://www.biblepicturepathways.com/Bible-Memorization-Tools.php> for more ideas.



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Pretenders?

Editor's Note and Study to Show Thyself Approved

Sometimes truth is stranger than fiction-- like the story of John Corcoran. Nobody would ever have suspected that a school teacher couldn't read, but it happened. John never learned to read properly in elementary school. Somehow the teachers just kept passing him along. When he got to high school he became an expert at cheating. He turned in other people's work. He stated, *"I could write my name and there were some words that I could remember, but I couldn't write a sentence - I was in high school and reading at the second or third grade level. And I never told anybody that I couldn't read."* He said he couldn't read letters, but he could read the system, and he could read people. He learned how to fake his way through college and graduated from Texas Western College with a teaching degree. **For the next seventeen years he taught high school students without being able to read or write.** Somehow he always arranged to have others do the reading and writing for him. John eventually left teaching, but surprisingly through an adult literacy program he did finally learn to read and write.



While John Corcoran's story may seem extreme, many today pretend to be something they are not. They pretend, for fear of censure, persecution, or embarrassment. However, inevitably, pretending has a way of catching up to you. Numbers 32:23b declares, *"Be sure your sin will find you out."*

One of the cases in the Bible that best contrasts the course of the pretender with the person who is genuine, open, frank and honest is that of Peter and John surrounding the time of Peter's threefold denial of Christ. The Bible records,

"And Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple: that disciple was known unto the high priest, and went in with Jesus into the palace of the high priest. But Peter stood at the door without. Then went out that other disciple, which was known unto the high priest, and spake unto her that kept the door, and brought in Peter. Then saith the damsel that kept the door unto Peter, Art not thou also one of this man's disciples? He saith, I am not." John 18:15-17

Much is included in this short narration. One of my favorite books elaborates on the above portion and the rest of the story of Peter's downfall, *"The disciple John, upon entering the judgment hall, did not try to conceal the fact that he was a follower of Jesus. He did not mingle with the rough company who were reviling his Master. He was not questioned, for he did not assume a false character, and thus lay himself liable to suspicion. He sought a retired corner secure from the notice of the mob, but as near Jesus as it was possible for him to be. Here he could see and hear all that took place at the trial of his Lord.*

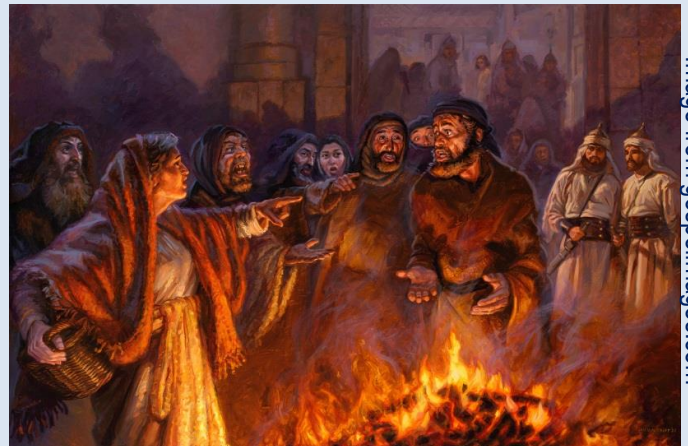


Image from gospelimages.com

*"Peter had not designed that his real character should be known. In assuming an air of indifference he had placed himself on the enemy's ground, and he became an easy prey to temptation. If he had been called to fight for his Master, he would have been a courageous soldier; but when the finger of scorn was pointed at him, he proved himself a coward. Many who do not shrink from active warfare for their Lord are driven by ridicule to deny their faith. By associating with those whom they should avoid, they place themselves in the way of temptation. They invite the enemy to tempt them, and are led to say and do that of which under other circumstances they would never have been guilty. **The disciple of Christ who in our day disguises his faith through dread of suffering or reproach denies his Lord as really as did Peter in the judgment hall.**" ²*

The lessons from this story and quotation have served as a warning to me through the years. The sad truth is those who take the "easy way out" now, avoiding to speak unpopular truth, eventually will openly deny their Lord. I consider myself to naturally be a coward, so after reading Proverbs 28:1 several years ago that states that *"the righteous are bold as a lion,"* I began praying every day for God to make me *"bold as a lion."* Paul describes this holy boldness for truth in 1 Thessalonians 2:2-4. *"But even after that we had suffered before, and were shamefully entreated, as ye know, at Philippi, we were bold in our God to speak unto you the gospel of God"*

with much contention. For our exhortation was not of deceit, nor of uncleanness, nor in guile: But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts.” Holy boldness does not back down notwithstanding both inward and outward conflicts of all kinds (contention). Holy boldness is pure, truthful and unpretending even in the face of suffering and persecution. Although showing kindness and courtesy, holy boldness speaks to please God, not man. As Christianity becomes increasingly less popular in the world, we need to practice this holy boldness so that we do not, like Peter, deny Christ. For Jesus declares, *“Whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.”* Matt.10:33

Thankfully, for those of us who have lacked of holy boldness in the past, the end of the story of Peter is encouraging. He repented and learned from his mistakes. We read in Acts 4, *“Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.”* We find their prayerful trust in God for strength. *“And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word... And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.”* In the next chapter, we find recorded some of those words of holy boldness, *“Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.”* Acts 4:13, 29, 31 and 5:29 Today, let us not be pretenders like Peter was at Jesus’ trial, but let us pray for and practice standing boldly for truth though the heavens fall.

1-- <https://www.bbc.com/news/stories-43700153> 2-- The Desire of Ages, pg. 711, 712



Swift Runner Health and Prophetic News Notes

Iatrogenic Dangers in Health Care



Truth is not always pleasant. For example, recently, Fox News headlined *“Take Care of Maya’: Jury finds Johns Hopkins All Children’s Hospital liable, awards damages in \$200M case.”*¹ In total, the *“Kowalski family was awarded more than \$261 million.”*²

To make a long story short, this *“Florida family sought help when their nine-year-old daughter, Maya, started suffering from debilitating and mysterious symptoms in 2015. An ER visit set off a horror chain of events including Munchausen by proxy claims, loss of custody and her mother’s suicide, which were captured in a hit documentary Take Care of Maya”*² *“According to court documents, in 2015, a doctor diagnosed Maya with “Complex Regional Pain Syndrome.”*³ Surprisingly, even though Maya’s mother was a nurse, one of the doctors

blamed her for the illness and Beata (Maya’s mother) was not allowed to see her child for months. The parents were told if they removed the child from the hospital they would be arrested. Sadly, under the understandable duress of being separated from her child, police investigations, and being blamed for the horrific illness, Beata committed suicide. Six days later the hospital released her daughter. And now, *“The hospital was found liable on multiple counts of abuse, including false imprisonment, battery and intentionally inflicting emotional distress on both Maya and her mother.”*² This story goes out as a beacon of warning to parents of the medical kidnapping that is happening all too often when parents take their children to the hospital these days. Because nobody suspects hospitals of being a trap, stories like this, including our own, remind me of Psalm 69:22, *“Let their table become a snare before them: and that which should have been for their welfare, let it become a trap.”*

Johns Hopkins All Children's found liable for abuse claims in the 'Take Care of Maya' civil lawsuit



This curse against the wicked was not meant to fall on the righteous. But, in fact, hospitals are often becoming a trap for the righteous. But children are not the only ones endangered regularly in hospitals. Adults are now also repeatedly being pronounced “brain dead” so that their organs can be harvested. This is evident because I’ve heard of 15-20 people now who have actually lived and recovered enough to tell about it. For example, *“A Swedish man who was paralyzed by a massive stroke has filed a complaint against the hospital that cared for him because he claimed he could hear doctors discussing whether to donate his organs just before they gave him a sedative that put him under....Fritze still has difficulty talking, but said he clearly remembers the moment he heard doctors talking about his dire prognosis as he lay nearby, unable to move but able to hear.”*⁴ He is not the only one.

*“Doctors declared a North Carolina pastor brain dead in August and were ready to harvest his organs. But a timely wiggle of his toe prompted his wife to step in and demand more tests.”*⁵ Now the pastor is at home again interacting with his family. Please study this out for yourself. They regularly use anesthesia and paralytics to remove organs from organ donors. Truly dead people don’t need anesthetics and paralytics to allow people to remove their organs. The truth is most of your organs are worthless if you are actually dead. You can research it yourself and perhaps one day I can cover the issue more thoroughly. But one take home from these stories is if, by way of accident, you wind up in a hospital, it pays to have a relative or friend there advocating for you and double checking everything. It may just save your life.



Sadly, statistics show, even where there is no agenda to get monetary “kick-backs” from harvesting your organs or to kidnap your kids, **hospitals are still dangerous places to be.** A 2017 PubMed article headlined, *“Your Health Care May Kill You: Medical Errors”* The article states, *“Recent studies of medical errors have estimated errors may account for as many as 251,000 deaths annually in the United States (U.S.), making medical errors the third leading cause of death. Error rates are significantly higher in the U.S. than in other developed countries such as Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the United Kingdom (U.K). At the same time less than 10 percent of medical errors are reported.”*⁶

It’s kind of scary if you do the math. If only 10 percent of medical errors are reported and yet even the World Health Organization (WHO) states, *“Around 1 in every 10 patients is harmed in health care and more than 3 million deaths occur annually due to unsafe care...”* this is a problem of epidemic proportions. *“Common adverse events that may result in avoidable patient harm are medication errors, unsafe surgical procedures, health care-associated infections, diagnostic errors, patient falls, pressure ulcers, patient misidentification, unsafe blood transfusion and venous thromboembolism.”*⁷

The Bible record itself contains a significant reference to iatrogenic harm, meaning injury or illness caused by the physician or healer. The book of Mark reports, *“And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years, And had suffered many things of many physicians [G2395 ἰατρός iatros] , and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse, Mark 5:25,26”* The Greek word “iatros,” translated physician in the above verse, is where we get the beginning of our word iatrogenic.

STAT news states, *“Injury or illness caused by the healer is called iatrogenic harm. It’s so widespread, so frequent, so massive, and so continuous that it rarely makes headlines. And unlike a plane crash or a building collapse, the vast majority of iatrogenic deaths can be kept under wraps — and they are. Death by medical error or accident is the nation’s leading cause of accidental death, exceeding all other causes of accidental death combined.””*⁸

But how does this happen? Let’s unwrap a few stories briefly just to demonstrate that even deadly mistakes are not infrequent. USA Today reports, *“An Ohio hospital placed two employees on administrative leave after a patient received a kidney intended for someone else. Officials at University Hospitals in Cleveland apologized for”*



*the incident...”*⁹ but are tight lipped and there seems to be no further information on whether the patient who received the kidney transplant had a good working kidney removed or cut out for the transplant. However, this is not the only surgery that has gone bad. WXYZ news reported, *“A Michigan woman has died just months following an elective back surgery after doctors discovered the bone graft material used in her surgery was contaminated with tuberculosis. The material came from a now-recalled product that was distributed to seven states and implanted in 36 patients.”*¹⁰



Note, this was not an isolated case, the disease was implanted in 35 other patients in seven different states. Although according to the

WHO *"half of this [iatrogenic] harm is attributed to medications."*⁷ That means that half come from other causes, so just avoiding medication won't necessarily keep you safe. We have seen that surgeries play a role and frankly, even diagnostics (as well as misdiagnosis) is dangerous these days. Deadline Detroit reported, *"A 51-year-old man walked into the colonoscopy suite at Beaumont's flagship Royal Oak hospital at 13 and Woodward thinking he'd be undergoing a routine screening and heading home a few hours later. Instead, the patient, the sole caregiver for his elderly mother, wound up in Beaumont's basement morgue."*¹¹ Death is a high price to pay for pictures of your colon.

Diagnosics and pharmaceutical drugs may also be a deadly duo. Case in point, recently, *"A former Tennessee nurse has been found guilty of criminally negligent homicide in the death of a patient who was accidentally given the wrong medication, a jury found. RaDonda Vaught, 37, was also found guilty Friday of gross neglect of an impaired adult..."*¹²

A woman with a brain bleed had come into the hospital where RoDonda worked. *"Doctors trying to determine the cause of the bleed ordered a PET scan to check for cancer. Murphey [the patient] was claustrophobic and was prescribed Versed for her anxiety, according to testimony. When Vaught could not find Versed in an automatic drug dispensing cabinet, she used an override and accidentally grabbed vecuronium instead."*¹²

Vecuronium turned out to be a lethal injection, and according to Wikipedia *"Vecuronium bromide has been used as part of a drug cocktail that prisons in the United States use for execution by lethal injection. Vecuronium is used to paralyze the prisoner and stop his or her breathing, in conjunction with a sedative and potassium chloride to stop the prisoner's heart. Injections of vecuronium bromide without proper sedation allow the person to be fully awake but unable to move in response to pain."*¹³

CBS News reported, *"Vaught injected the paralyzing drug vecuronium into 75-year-old Charlene Murphey instead of the sedative Versed on Dec. 26, 2017. Vaught freely admitted to making several errors with the medication that day, but her defense attorney argued the nurse was not acting outside of the norm and systemic problems at Vanderbilt University Medical Center were at least partly to blame for the error..."*¹²

Volumes could be written citing case after case of iatrogenic harm or death. Indeed, *"vain is the help of man."* Psalm 60:11 The truth is when you compound pharmaceutical poisons with impersonal care, dangerous diagnostics, money-driven medicine and overtreatment, it is evident that it is high time to learn to use God's harmless remedies at home (including advanced first aid). Thankfully, the Great Physician himself invites us to *"learn of me"* (Matthew 11:29) And He has commanded us, *"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature..."* With His command is the promise, *"And these signs shall follow them that believe...they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."* Mark 16:15-18 Verily, *"It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man."* Psalm 118:8

For more info on this topic, watch *Pharmakeia, the Sorcerer's Wand* here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5gDnDE_WpU8

1--<https://www.fox13news.com/news/take-care-of-maya-trial-jury-reaches-verdict-in-220m-case-against-johns-hopkins-all-childrens-hospital>
2-- <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/netflix-take-care-of-maya-trial-munchausen-by-proxy-b2446801.html>
3-- screenshot <https://www.abcactionnews.com/news/region-sarasota-manatee/johns-hopkins-all-childrens-found-liable-of-abuse-claims-in-the-take-care-of-maya-civil-lawsuit>
4-- screenshot <https://abcnews.go.com/Health/stroke-patient-hears-doctors-discuss-organ-donation/story?id=23194667>
5-- screenshot <https://www.insider.com/north-carolina-pastor-escaped-death-wife-stopped-doctors-harvesting-organs-2023-3> 6-- <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28186008/>
7-- <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/patient-safety> 8-- <https://www.statnews.com/2021/08/04/medical-errors-accidents-ongoing-preventable-health-threat/#:~:text=And%20unlike%20a%20plane%20crash,causes%20of%20accidental%20death%20combined> 9-- <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2021/07/14/kidney-transplant-wrong-patient-ohio/7967367002/> 10-- [https://www.wxyz.com/news/tuberculosis-death-of-michigan-woman-linked-to-tainted-bone-graft-after-surgery#:~:text=\(WXYZ\)%20%E2%80%94%20Michigan%20woman.and%20implanted%20in%2036%20patients](https://www.wxyz.com/news/tuberculosis-death-of-michigan-woman-linked-to-tainted-bone-graft-after-surgery#:~:text=(WXYZ)%20%E2%80%94%20Michigan%20woman.and%20implanted%20in%2036%20patients)
11-- <https://www.deadlinedetroit.com/articles/27205/starkman-beaumont-hospital-staffers-horrified-after-patient-dies-during-routine-colonoscopy>
12-- <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/radonda-vaught-nurse-guilty-death-charlene-murphey-wrong-drug/> 13-- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vecuronium_bromide

Anything but the Scrap Pile

A blacksmith known for his strong faith, had a great deal of illness. He was challenged by an unbeliever to explain why his God would let him suffer.

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He explained, "I take a piece of iron, put it into the fire to bring it to a white heat, then I strike it once or twice to see if it will take temper. I plunge it into water to change the temperature, put it into the fire again, then I put it on the anvil and make a useful article out of it.



"If it will not take temper when I first strike it on the anvil, I throw it into the scrap heap and sell it for a half-penny per pound. I believe God has been testing me to see if I will take temper. I have tried to bear it as patiently as I could, and my daily prayer has been, 'Lord, put me into the fire if you will; put me into the water if you think I need it; do anything you please, O Lord, only do not throw me on the scrap heap.'"

Indeed, it is written, *"Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand."* Daniel 12:10

Kids' Corner

God's Amazing Creatures

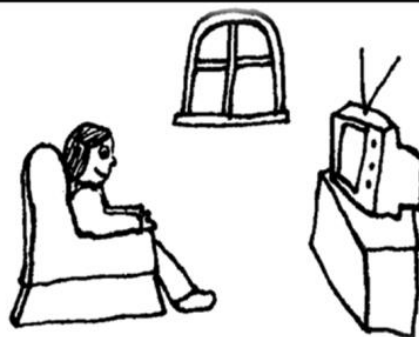


The great spangled fritillary lives in North America. These butterflies are dark orange with black patterned marks and a lighter orange or yellow band. The great spangled fritillaries' habitat is open meadows, woodlands, valleys, and pastures. Adults sip nectar from common milkweed, Joe Pye weed, verbena, and red clover. The caterpillars, which feed on violets, hatch in the fall, overwinter in that stage, and finally take their first bites of food in the spring. Isn't it amazing that these were created by God to live that long without food?

"So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 1:7



Christian loves Jesus. He tells all his friends that Jesus is coming soon so they will be ready to meet Jesus.



Carnal thought it was more fun to watch TV. He didn't tell his friends about Jesus. Carnal made Jesus sad.