

The Bible Banner



Bonus Edition

Glimpses of Truth



June 2025

A small boy was on the witness stand in an important lawsuit. The prosecuting attorney cross-examined him, then delivered, he thought, a crushing blow to the testimony. "Your father has been telling you how to testify, has he not?" "Yes," the lad replied and did not hesitate with the answer. "Now," said the lawyer triumphantly, "just tell us how your father told you to testify." "Well," the boy said modestly, "Father told me the lawyers would try to tangle me in my testimony, but if I would just be careful to tell the truth, I could repeat the same thing every time." Our Father in heaven has given us similar instruction: *"Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth... Ephesians 4:25 And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you."* Matthew 10:18-20

Nacho Chips (Plant-based, of course)

We like these for picnics along with a Bean Salad* and carrot sticks

One cookie sheet of your choice of non-GMO corn chips to level with sides

Spray oil and Seasonings

Seasonings

¼ tsp Pero (coffee-substitute)

1 ½ Tbsp tomato powder

1 Tbsp nutritional yeast

½ Tbsp paprika

1 Tbsp organic powdered sugar

½ Tbsp salt

1 Tbsp onion powder



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Fill the regular-sized cookie sheet with corn chips to level with the sides. Bake at 260°F (125°C) until warmed. Mix seasonings in a large bowl. Remove chips from oven, and spritz with olive oil. Mix seasonings in with chips until they are coated with seasonings.

Respray with oil if necessary.

*You can find the recipe for Bean Salad here. <https://www.swiftrunnerministries.com/recipes--salads-and-veggies.php>

QUOTABLE QUOTES

***"Never let good books
take the place of the
Bible. Drink from the
Well, not from the
streams that flow from
the Well."***

Amy Carmichael

Profitable Traditions – Cultivate Happiness

Happiness is often based on the little kindnesses in life. Proverbs 16:20 says, *"He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good: and whoso trusteth in the LORD, happy is he."* When the kids were young, handling matters wisely made all the difference in the joy of traveling. For cross-country trips where the kids had to sit in their car seats basically all day, one of the things I did was had a "surprise bag." Twice a day, between meals and kid-friendly worships, they were allowed to unwrap a "new" toy. This doesn't have to be costly. You could even "candy-wrap" the toy in newspaper twisting it at the ends. Sometimes I used an old toy or book that mysteriously "disappeared" months before the trip, anything to break up the monotony by opening a present. A tiny etch-a-sketch or the travel magnetic sand type toys also often got reused.

Visit here for some other kid-friendly worship ideas for at home or on the road.

<https://www.biblepicturepathways.com/family-worship-ideas.php>



If you would like to begin receiving our monthly newsletter via e-mail, please contact us at biblepathways@hotmail.com

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A Most Valuable Find

Editor's Note and Study to Show Thyself Approved

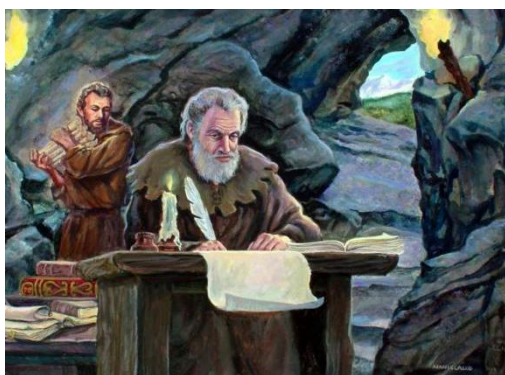
Many years ago, as a colleague of mine walked past my pantry shelf (that had maybe 10 pints of canned green beans and a similar number of jars of home-canned tomatoes). They commented positively, "Aren't you a Proverbs 31 woman!" I hate to admit it, but back then I didn't even know what a Proverbs 31 woman was. I had to go look it up in my Bible. Proverbs 31:10 begins the description, saying, **"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies."**

If you look up the words "virtuous woman" in the rest of the Bible, only one woman is described this way. In Ruth 3:11, Boaz says to Ruth, **"all the city of my people doth know that thou art a virtuous woman."** The story of Ruth adds so much dimension to what a virtuous woman is like. Ruth was a woman who was hard-working, self-sacrificing, and had strong faith in God even in severe adversity and trial. She left all she knew to follow the true God, and her story is a beautiful picture of righteousness by faith.

Proverbs states that this kind of virtuous woman is said be worth more than rubies. A virtuous woman and the ruby are likely compared because they are both rare. The International Gem Society states, **"Large, gem-quality rubies can be more valuable than comparably sized diamonds and are certainly rarer...Consequently, even modest-sized rubies command relatively high values. For example, a 1.52-carat ruby's price may begin at \$5,500 per carat [about 0.2 grams], depending on its clarity."** I'll spare you all the math, but according to the value of a ruby, this means an average-sized virtuous woman would weigh in at a value **"far above"** two billion dollars. A virtuous wife is a valuable asset to her husband for Proverbs 12:4 says, **"A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that maketh ashamed is as rottenness in his bones."** Proverbs 31:11,12 reiterates this concept, saying, **"The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life."**



The Proverbs 31 description shows the virtuous woman is not only faithful but hard-working. It continues, **"She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands. She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar. She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens. She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard. She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms. She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night."** Proverbs 31:13-18 After reading this description, one youth said to me, **"Nobody can do all that."** And indeed, a woman that works all day AND all night would soon die off. But it begins to make more sense when we realize that, as Proverbs 31:1 might suggest, this chapter is also prophetic or symbolic. In the Bible, a woman represents a church (Isaiah 54:6 and Ephesians 5:23-25). So the virtuous woman represents a virtuous church. In fact,



Proverbs 31:10-31 was originally a Hebrew acrostic. So the first letter of each verse began with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet—v. 10 begins with aleph, v. 11 with bet, and so on through the 22 letters to v. 31, which begins with the final Hebrew letter, tav. So we might say this describes a virtuous church from A to Z. Notice how well these descriptions fit the church. For example, **the candle (vs. 18) or light of a virtuous church should never go out by night. Even in the dark ages the lamp of God's true church shone brightly as missionaries from "the church in the wilderness" copied the scriptures and shared truth with others who were lost in the darkness of error.**

The virtuous woman is a church willing to work. Bringing her food from afar signifies a church with spiritual food from heaven (John 6:51). Like a merchant's ship, she delivers that food to others. She considers a field and buys it. According to Matthew 13:38, the field is the world. This shows the virtuous woman is a missionary church. Her money is spent "buying" the field, gaining possession of the field for God, and she works planting churches/vineyards (Isaiah 5:7). In Proverbs 31, the virtuous woman **"strengtheneth her arms."** In the natural world this might be done by grinding grain, kneading bread, hoeing in the garden, or scrubbing clothes. But spiritually, the arm represents salvation or saving health. Consider the Hebrew parallelism of Isaiah 33:2 that restates the "arm" as "salvation" or in the 1535 Coverdale Bible, 1549 Matthew's Bible or 1568 Bishop's Bible the "arm" is restated as "health." **"O LORD, be gracious unto us; we have waited for thee: be thou their arm every morning, our salvation also in the time of trouble."** (Bishop's Bible-- **"be...our health in the tyme of trouble."**) The same parallelism is found in Isaiah 52:10 **"The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God."** (Bishop's Bible spelling modernized-- **"the saving health of our God."**) So we see that heeding the counsel of Jesus, the great Physician, the virtuous woman/church strengthens the health and medical missionary work.

Further down, Proverbs 31:19 continues, *"She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff."* Many people today don't recognize the names of these two objects. But the rough mass of the wool or flax is wrapped around the distaff, and little by little the confused mass is organized and made into thread by skill of the spinner and the spinning action of the spindle. Then it is also wrapped around the spindle. This translates out to a virtuous woman/church who doesn't mind doing repetitive, time-consuming and seemingly mundane tasks that have a higher purpose. It reminds me of a young girl who watched her mother washing dishes. Thinking of how many times her mother did them along with all the other housework, the girl asked, "Mother, don't you ever get tired of washing dishes?" The mother replied, "I'm not [just] doing dishes, I'm building a home." Indeed, *"Every wise woman buildeth her house..."* Proverbs 14:1 We also find what the virtuous woman does, she does well for Proverbs 31:24,25 states, *"She maketh fine linen, and selleth it; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant. Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come."* As you might guess from the fact that strength and honour are her clothing, clothing represents character. Revelation 19:8 expounds, *"And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints."* Fine linen, as opposed to linen made from coarse rough thread takes skill and practice to make. And this woman/church is forming a Christ-like character for heaven so that *"she shall rejoice in time to come."* Since scarlet and purple were worn by royalty (Daniel 5:29, Matthew 27:28,29, Judges 8:26, John 19:2,3) the colors of the virtuous woman's clothing and that of her family show her confidence is not in their own ability, but in a relationship with Jesus and being adopted as part of the royal family. Proverbs 31:21-23 reads, *"She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet. She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple. Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land."* Proverbs 31:20 also specifies her self-sacrificing work for those less fortunate, *"She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy."* Proverbs 31:20



The description of the virtuous woman/church is worthy of imitation. Proverb 31:26 continues, *"She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness."* While courtesy should always be practiced, biblical kindness is not necessarily the absence of discipline or reproof. Psalm 141:5 says, *"Let the righteous smite me; it shall be a kindness: and let him reprove me; it shall be an excellent oil, which shall not break my head..."* Like a mother telling a child not to touch the hot stove, kind words also warn of dangers ahead. They also encourage the discouraged. Thus the virtuous woman/church *"looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her..."* Proverbs 31:27, 28 Yet, we find it is not magnificent churches, imposing processions, choice paintings, exquisite music or the praise of men that identify the virtuous church. Indeed, *"Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman [church] that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised."* Proverbs 31:27, 28, 30 A woman/church like this is indeed, a valuable find *"for her price is far above rubies."*

1- <https://www.gemsociety.org/article/ruby-jewelry-and-gemstone-information/>



Tips for Traveling while Eating Plant-based

"I went on a trip, compromised my diet and my cancer came back," the article stated. Another story reverberated an equivalent sentiment, *"I went on a trip, compromised my diet, and my autoimmune disorder flared up again."* Over the years I have read or heard many people's health stories like this. Although not quite as dramatic, for my husband and I and many others, accidentally eating even a little dairy almost guarantees getting a viral infection or a cold (which is no fun especially while traveling), so we try to be pretty careful, and eat only plant-based food. Indeed, although nobody likes to be sick while traveling, on trips many people compromise their usual diet for more convenient options. And, indeed, eating plant-based on the move can be more challenging, but with a little preparation, it can be done and even be enjoyable.



For years, I used ice chest, but truthfully, it gets time consuming buying and shuffling ice twice a day hoping that stuff doesn't spoil or get soggy. We have however, learned you can go for about two days without having to restock an ice chest if you freeze a large milk-jug of water several days before the trip to keep your ice chest cool. We also learned the hard way that WITHOUT an ice chest, most healthy, no preservative bread does not keep even for a few days in a hot car. (Because of its high salt content, artisan bread is the best exception to this rule we have found. <https://www.swiftrunnerministries.com/recipes--breads-chips-crackers.php>) So since sandwiches are generally out, how to travel and eat plant-based can be a little daunting. But here are a few tips of ways we have learned about how to eat plant-based even on long road trips without an ice chest in tow.

For Breakfasts, we often take hefty (space-saving) whole grain cereals like homemade grape-nuts or granola to combine with a shelf-stable rice, soy, coconut, or other plant-based milk (sized correctly for how much your family usually uses for one meal). Various nuts and pumpkin or sunflower seeds are also a nice addition for breakfasts. Since crackers are



Rice Cake, Applesauce, and Dried Fruit "Fruit Pizza"

more shelf-stable than bread, they are a great option. Brown rice cakes and Triscuit-like crackers are generally readily available whole grain options. (Pictured is my rice cake topped with applesauce and dried fruit for a "fruit pizza.") These may also be spread with various nut butters. But two of our favorite cracker-like options are to make our own Sesame Cheese

Crackers (pictured on page 3) and Travel/Party Mix. (Recipe here

<https://www.swiftrunnerministries.com/recipes--chips-crackers.php>)

In fact, in our family, no road-trip is complete without Sesame Cheese Crackers and Party Mix. We also eat plenty of fruit to provide antioxidants and vitamins to help keep us from getting sick when traveling. Apples keep a little longer without refrigeration than most fruit, so we often take some of those, but we also eat a wide variety of dried fruits when we travel. Raisins, dates, mango, pineapple, berries, and various fruit leathers are some of our favorites. Shelf-stable applesauce packs and canned pineapple or pears are also a favorite of ours. Shelf-stable fruit juices also make a nice treat while traveling. Trail-mix is a great idea if space is limited like airplane travel. For extra vitamin C, acerola cherry and black currant powder are two of our favorites.

For Supper, we usually try to base the meal around different kinds of canned beans. Whole carrots, sweet potato and cabbage are some of the vegetables that last the longest without refrigeration. Dried seaweed is also readily available in shelf-stable form for a "leafy green." Homemade kale chips are another good option. Bean salad, carrot sticks, and nachos (as featured in the recipe) are one of our favorite combinations. An olive oil and lemon juice "salad dressing" becomes more shelf-stable by either carrying whole lemons or it becomes completely shelf-stable by carrying the now available freeze-dried lemon juice powder. (I'm loving the lemon juice powder.

After years of trying to cart around a jar of lemon juice and keep it cold, lemon juice powder is so much easier!) Refried beans with a just-add-water, homemade, taco sauce (using tomato powder and some of that lemon juice powder) or Haystacks/taco salad with a just-add-water plant-based cheese powder (using potato flour or blended rice puffs or healthy cheerios as a thickener) are also options we are still perfecting. Crackers and certain canned lentil soup* that also contains vegetables is also a quick and easy favorite of ours. One of our new favorite travel main dishes is black beans mixed with canned corn and topped with made-on-the-spot salsa. We took canned, salsa-consistency tomatoes and a zip-lock bag filled with a salsa seasoning mix of dried cilantro, dried minced onion, garlic powder, salt and lemon juice powder. On location we just mixed the seasonings with the tomato and had a yummy salsa on the spot. Brown rice crackers and seaweed snacks to the side of the beans added a little crunch and some additional nutrients. And for vitamin H (for happy)



Black Beans and Salsa with Brown Rice Crackers and Seaweed

one of our favorite travel desserts is homemade caramel corn. <https://www.swiftrunnerministries.com/recipes--desserts.php>



Caramel Corn

Here are a few additional travel tips we've learned through the years.

Keeping clean while "homeless." At least in America, a product called Water Wipes is available. These are just a disposable cloth, water and grapefruit seed extract. They are perfect for washing fingers, faces, picnic tables, nasty bathrooms, and dirty feet. Since they are basically just water, they are also good for washing produce like apples or carrots that you may buy along the way.

Boiling water tip: Since I don't drink coffee, it took me a while to realize that coffee makers in hotels could also be washed and used for simply boiling water. We also learned there is a device that plugs into the cigarette lighter in the car that can also be used to boil water. The extra luxury of boiling water gives you some options for making

herbal teas or having warm foods like instant oatmeal on the go. In addition, foods like burger delight

<https://www.swiftrunnerministries.com/recipes--seasonings-notmeats-scratch.php>

may be dehydrated pre-trip, and then re-hydrated on-site with boiling water for treats like sloppy pizza joes, etc.

With a little forethought and preparation, we have found it is possible to have fun traveling and still eat plant-based, nutritious, yummy food. Therefore, for your health, even when traveling, *"keep sound wisdom and discretion: So shall they be life unto thy soul... Then shalt thou walk in thy way safely, and thy foot shall not stumble."* Proverbs 3:21-23

* <https://www.amys.com/our-foods/organic-lentil-soup>



Prophetic News Notes -- The First "American" Pope

A recent AI image (posted by the White House) of President Trump dressed as the pope¹ drew both comments and criticism. Interestingly, what appears to be about six days later, Leo XIV was elected as the first American/USA pope². Prophetically speaking, this is of great interest since America plays a prominent role in Bible prophecy fulfilling the second beast of Revelation 13. *"And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live."* Revelation 13:11,12,14

Somebody asked me recently, "Are you sure the beast with lamb-like horns is the United States? How can you be sure?" Although I don't have space to cover all the proofs, time, place, and characteristics are primary. Place-wise, this beast/kingdom comes up out of the earth. Genesis 1:10 calls earth dry land contrasting it with seas made up of water. According to Revelation 17:15 waters represent people. So the dry, waterless earth would represent an unpopulated place.



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May 8, 2025 Leo XIV elected as first American pope

By Christian Edwards, Lauren Kent, Olivia Kemp, Billy Stockwell, Maureen Chowdhury, Elise Hammond and Antoinette Radford, CNN
Updated 4:14 AM EDT, Fri May 9, 2025

Hear first American pope address the world
11:16

Time-wise, this beast/kingdom comes up around the time that *"He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity,"* according to Revelation 13:10. The deadly wound was given to Papal Rome in 1798 when during the Revolutionary Wars,

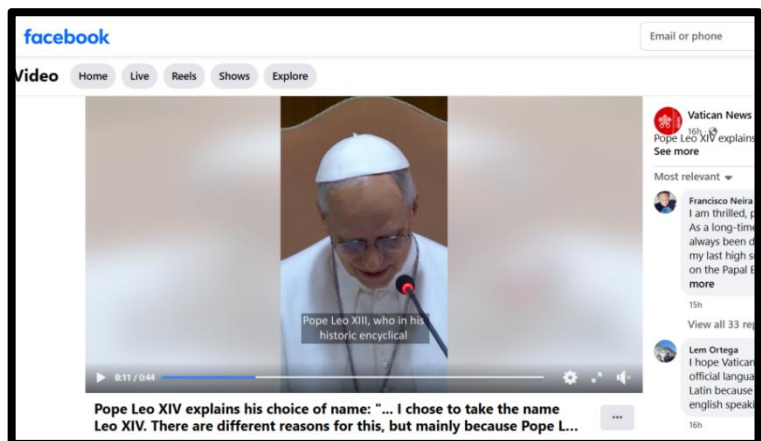
French troops under Louis-Alexandre Berthier invaded Rome and captured Pope Pius VI, taking him as a prisoner to France, where he died in 1799. The USA is the only major nation that was coming up about this time in a largely unpopulated area. Characteristic-wise we find there are no crowns on this beast, so instead of a king, this country must have a different form of government denoted by lamb-like horns. Since, according to John 1:29, Jesus is the *"Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world,"* this distinctly describes a Christian nation. *The "two horns like a lamb" well represent the character of the United States Government, as expressed in its two fundamental principles, Republicanism and Protestantism. These principles are the secret of our power and prosperity as a nation. Those who first found an asylum on the shores of America rejoiced that they had reached a country free from the arrogant claims of popery and the tyranny of kingly rule. They determined to establish a government upon the broad foundation of civil and religious liberty."*^{4a} Indeed, God has blessed America, a haven of religious freedom, and it has become a leading power in the world. But the Bible predicts when the first beast's deadly wound is healed, America will speak like a dragon and try to force people to *"worship the first beast."* In other words, religious freedom will disappear and everyone will be forced to worship the first beast. *"And he [the USA] had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."* Revelation 13:15-17

Like a good parent, God has warned us again and again of one of the most clever deceptions of all time. Remember though, God loves the people, it is the corrupt system *"who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God..."* (2 Thess. 2:4) that is condemned and warned against. In Revelation 17, we see a woman (a church--Isaiah 54:6 and Ephesians 5:23-25) riding a beast (state). Church and state have come together to form Mystery Babylon. One of the characteristics of this power, as pictured under different symbols in Revelation 17:18, is that it is a *"woman [a church] who ... is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth."* In other words, a city-state like the Vatican is here described. We also see the connection of church wielding political power. Only one political church system owning a city-state fits this description and that is Papal Rome. At some point the USA, speaking like a dragon, and forming an

image to the beast will also connect church and state, and religious freedom will disappear. Although we are living in prophetic overtime, exactly when God will allow all this to take place he has not revealed. But in the meantime, let us learn a little about the new pope, the leader of what the Bible describes as the 1st beast power, and in this case, the first pope from America.

Leo XIV is said to be the first pope from the Order of Saint Augustine. In his first speech as Pope Leo XIV, Cardinal Robert Prevost said, (translated from its original Italian). *"I am a son of Saint Augustine, an Augustinian, who said: 'with you I am a Christian and for you I am a bishop'."*³ This statement seems mild enough to the uninformed, but Augustinians are known for their mission work, and the variety of mission work that Augustine believed in is what some call *"compel them to come in."* This involved coercion of those deemed heretics by Rome. In Augustine's letter to Vincentius he wrote, *"17. I have therefore yielded to the evidence afforded by these instances which my colleagues have laid before me. For originally my opinion was, that no one should be coerced into the unity of Christ, that we must act only by words, fight only by arguments, and prevail by force of reason, lest we should have those whom we knew as avowed heretics feigning themselves to be Catholics. But this opinion of mine was overcome not by the words of those who controverted it, but by the conclusive instances to which they could point."* Just to qualify the meaning, understand that he also wrote, *"In some cases, therefore, both he that suffers persecution is in the wrong, and he that inflicts it [persecution] is in the right.. You now see therefore, I suppose, that the thing to be considered when any one is coerced, is not the mere fact of the coercion, but the nature of that to which he is coerced, whether it be good or bad..."*^{4b} This idea that "the end justifies the means" is unbiblical. In fact, in Romans 3:8, Paul reports that he was not pleased when someone slandered him saying he had said *"Let us do evil [harm, injury], that good may come."*

But back to Pope Leo XIV. Vatican News on Facebook posted a video giving an explanation of why the new pope chose the name Leo. In it, Pope Leo XIV, stated, *"I decided to take the name of Pope Leo XIV. There were many reasons, but mainly Pope Leo the XIII, who in his historic encyclical, Rerum Novarum, addressed the social question in the context of the first great industrial revolution. In our day, the Church offers everyone the treasury of her social teaching in response to another industrial revolution, and to developments in the field of artificial intelligence that pose new challenges for the defence of human dignity, of justice and labor."*⁵



Rerum Novarum, meaning "of new things," is on the Rights and Duties of Capital and Labor. Section 40 and 41 of this document suggests having the state enforce Sunday as a rest day. Of course, we know that God's law, in Exodus 20:8-11, calls for rest from secular labor on the seventh day (Saturday), not the first day (Sunday). There is danger in casting aside the counsel of God for the counsels of men. Yet Rerum Novarum states, *"40. The working man, too, has interests in which he should be protected by the State...No man may with impunity outrage that human dignity which God Himself treats with great reverence, nor stand in the way of that higher life which is the preparation of the eternal life of heaven...41. From this follows the obligation of the cessation from work and labor on Sundays and certain holy days. The rest from labor is not to be understood as mere giving way to idleness; much less must it be an occasion for spending money and for vicious indulgence, as many would have it to be; but it should be rest from labor, hallowed by religion. Rest (combined with religious observances) disposes man to forget for a while the business of his everyday life, to turn his thoughts to things heavenly, and to the worship which he so strictly owes to the eternal Godhead. It is this, above all, which is the reason and motive of Sunday rest..."*⁶ Notice the call in Rerum Novarum for state enforcement of religious laws not allowing *"labor on Sundays and certain holy days."* Not surprisingly, Pope Leo XIII, who this pope is named for, was the pope when the first Sunday laws came to the U.S. We see portions of these Sunday blue laws are still in effect today evidenced by the fact that mail is not delivered on Sunday in America.

Interestingly, in the United States of America, when Sunday laws came around as the Blair Sunday-Rest Bill was introduced in the U.S. Senate in 1888 to establish Sunday as a national day of rest, there were two visible forces urging the state lawmakers to enforce these laws. One was labor unions and the other religious leaders. A December 21, 1888 Signs of the Times



evidences this fact, stating, *"The 'Union Signal' has this to say of the proposed Sunday law: 'Labor unions are now united with the churches in demanding such legislation. Our wheelbarrow Government never does anything without pushing; but with the churches pushing with all their might at one handle of the wheel barrow, and the Labor unions doing the same at the other, it must move and carry its load - Sunday observance - along with it.'"*

Around the time of the first Sunday law, one student of prophecy wrote this referring to the feet of the image in Daniel 2, said, *"The mingling of churchcraft and statecraft is represented by the iron and the clay."*

*This union is weakening all the power of the churches. This investing the church with the power of the state will bring evil results. Men have almost passed the point of God's forbearance. They have invested their strength in politics, and have united with the papacy. But the time will come when God will punish those who have made void His law, and their evil work will recoil upon themselves."*¹⁸

Only time will tell whether another Sunday law and loss of liberty is coming in the near future. But in the meantime, *"Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."* Luke 21:36

1- X: <https://x.com/WhiteHouse/status/1918502592335724809> Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/p/DJLMHhLskBj> <https://truthsocial.com/@realDonaldTrump/posts/114441543826801216>
 2- <https://www.cnn.com/world/live-news/new-pope-conclave-day-two-05-08-25> 3- <https://www.npr.org/2025/05/08/nx-s1-5392318/transcript-pope-leo-xiv-speech> 4a--{Signs of the Times,
 November 1, 1899 par. 4} 4b-- https://www.earlychurchtexts.com/public/augustine_letter_93_to_vincentius_cogite_intrare.htm 5-- <https://www.facebook.com/vaticannews/videos/pope-leo-xiv-explains-his-choice-of-name-i-chose-to-take-the-name-leo-xiv-there-/1712391039663243/> 6-- <https://www.papalencyclicals.net/leo13/13rerum.htm> 7--{December 21, 1888 EJW, SITI 784.4} 8-- {15MR 39.2}



What Rum Does

Recently, I was greatly pained as I witnessed yet another natural remedy advocate recommending as good medicine an herbal tincture made from vodka/alcohol. Do not be deceived. The truth is, mixing a few herbs with alcohol in a tincture does NOT magically make alcohol good medicine! God's word says, *"Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder."* Proverbs 23:31

The following story well solidifies the truth of this statement.

I was sitting at my breakfast-table one Sunday morning, when I was called to my door by the ringing of the bell. There stood a boy about fourteen years of age, poorly clad, but tidied up as best he could. He was leaning on crutches; for one leg was off at the knee.

In a voice trembling with emotion, and with tears coursing down his cheeks, he said: "Mr. Hoagland, I am Freddy Brown. I have come to see if you will go to the jail and talk and pray with my father. He is to be hanged tomorrow for the murder of my mother. My father was a good man, but whisky did it. I have three little sisters younger than myself. We are very, very, poor, and have no friends. We live in a dark and dingy room. I do the best I can to support my sisters by selling papers, blacking boots, and doing odd jobs; but Mr. Hoagland, we are very poor. Will you come and be with us when father's body is brought home? The governor says we may have his body after he is hanged."

I was deeply moved with pity. I promised, and made haste to the jail, where I found his father. He acknowledged that he must have murdered his wife, for the circumstances pointed that way, but he had not the slightest remembrance of the deed. He said he was crazed with drink, or he never would have committed the crime. He said: "My wife was a good and faithful mother to my little children. Never did I dream that my hand could be guilty of such a crime."

The man could bravely face the penalty of the law for his deed, but he broke down and cried as if his heart would break when he thought of leaving his children in a destitute and friendless condition. I read and prayed with him, and left him to his fate.



The next morning I made my way to the miserable quarters of the children. I found three little girls upon a bed of straw in one corner of the room. They were clad in rags. They would have been beautiful girls had they had the proper care. They were expecting the body of their dead father, and between their cries and sobs they would say, "Papa was good, but whisky did it."

In a little time two strong officers came bearing the body of the dead father in a rude pine box. They set it down on two old rickety stools. The cries of the children were so heart-rending that the officers could not endure it, and made haste out of the room.

In a moment the manly boy nerved himself, and said, "Come, sisters, kiss Papa's before it is cold." They gathered about his face and smoothed it down with kisses, and between their sobs cried out: "Papa was good, but whisky did it! Papa was good, but whisky did it!"

No wonder the Bible says, "*Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that puttest thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken...*" Habbakuk 2:15

Kids' Corner

God's Amazing Creatures

Velella Velella, commonly known as by-the-wind sailors, purple sailors, or sea raft is a free-floating hydrozoan, jellyfish-like creature that lives on the surface of the ocean. By-the-wind sailors typically grow to be between 1.5 and 3 inches (3.8 to 7.6 cm) long. They are known for their flat, oval-shaped, jelly-like body that is a beautiful, blue to purple, and for a small, clear "sail," called a vane, that helps them float and move on the ocean's surface. The clear



vane sticking up works like a sail on a boat. Since they can't actually swim, by-the-wind sailors float along at the mercy of the sea breeze in nearly all corners of the world's ocean. Sometimes they wash up on the beach so we can see them up-close, like the one in the picture on the left.

By-the-wind sailors reproduce or have babies through a process called budding. This works much like what happens when the yeast buds when your mother is making bread. The by-the-wind sailors make a little look-alike of themselves. The buds are called medusae and they are less than 2 millimeters long at birth, half the size of a grain of rice! Despite their small size even as adults, God's

design is evident in the by-the-wind sailors

Their mostly see-through vanes have beautiful, intricate patterns that are amazing to look at. No wonder Asaph, one of the song writers in the Bible, wrote praising our Creator God by saying, "*Thou art the God that doest wonders:...Thy way is in the sea, and thy path in the great waters...*" Psalm 77:14,19

Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, that I am God.

Isaiah 43:12



Passion was grouchy. She wrote naughty "I hate you" words on the sand at the beach. She made Jesus sad.

GOD LOVES



Patience remembered that she was supposed to be a witness for Jesus. She wrote, "God loves you" in the sand on the beach. She made Jesus happy.