## **Marketplace Moments**

Marketplace Christian Network

### **Bibliophoria**

### The Root of the Righteous By A.W.Tozer

We have such an overload of information today, living in a culture of always looking for that 'something new'. In this 21st century, it seem strange that I will introduce an author who has died in 1963, even before I was born. Some of you may have heard of him.

They call him 'A 20th century prophet' even in his lifetime. His 'prophetic' gifting was not that is usually associated with a Pentecostal tradition, but more that which has tremendous insight in his time and culture. Much more than that, Tozer is before his time, as he speaks into this post-modern era.

Tozer was pastor of Southside Alliance Church in Chicago for 31 years, where his reputation as a man of God was city-wide. Concurrently he became editor of The Alliance Witness, a responsibility he fulfilled until his death. His greatest legacy to the Christian world has been his more than 20 books, including this one. *(From back cover).* 

Tozer comments on this series of short essays, "They are in no sense quiet religious essays. They were born in the midst of life; while they have, as I hope, heaven in full view, they are never too far removed from the rough world where

## A-W-TOZER THE ROOT OF THE RIGHTEOUS



"AND HE SHALL BE LIKE A TREE PLANTED BY THE RIVERS OF WATER, THAT BRINGETH FORTH HIS FRUIT IN HIS SEASON...." Psalm 1:3

the children of God struggle and work and pray".

When I first encountered Tozer, I was a second year university student at the age of 17. I was struggling and trying to find God. Since then, it has been sort of a personal pilgrimage that I pick up this now somewhat old and yellowed book once every few years, to thumb through and refreshes the lessons and they are now applicable today. Any book of Tozer you pick is better than many books at a Christian bookstore today

By Timothy Liu

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### **Google Plus**

### **Glorify His Name**

http://glorifyhisname.com/systmpl/door/

I stumbled across these website while looking for a graphics on The Root of the Righteous. First I found that the entire book is available for download. Goto: http://glorifyhisname.com/systmpl/ror/

Not only so, but, there lies a great treasure of writers, early fathers of the faith and their full text available for download such as D.L Moody, St. John of the Cross, Brother Lawrance, Andrew Murray. Wow!

If you click on 'Offsite books and audio sermons', you find yourself walking into a library of great classics. Links are available to Christian Classics Ethereal Library managed by Calvin College. This is literally a full library of classis, text and audios. Will probably devote time in later edi-



tion to introduce the site. If you cannot wait, here is the web-site. http://www.ccel.org/

Then I found the link to Sermon Index. Here again, you feel swamped with available reading materials and audio achieves of past. More than 13,000 audio sermons and over 20,000 text sermons, from A. W. Tozer, Paris Reidhead, Leonard Ravenhill, T. Austin-Sparks, Art Katz, D. L. Moody, Carter Conlon, David Wilkerson, Jim Cymbala, Martin-Lloyd Jones, R. A. Torrey and many others. (from Glorify His Name site)

You can also sign up to have full access to the discussion group and subscribe to the

# sermon index

monthly e-newsletter known as 'The Old Path' which introduces those who have traveled the faith journey before us. I like the quote which they used for the newsletter from Jeremiah 6:16, "Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for **the old paths**, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls." KJV.

Even as we sit in church on Sunday and listening or reading these vast number of sermons, texts and writings, we need to remember the Bereans. It was recorded in scriptures Acts 17:11 that 'Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.' Happy Surfing.

By Timothy Liu

### **Of the Heart and Mind**

**Prayer for a Hectic Work Day** Dear Father,

As I approach another day, redeeming good work in a fallen world, help me to remember the fruit of the Spirit.

- Love, that I respond to your great commandment, to love you and to love neighbour
- Joy, in the midst of pressure and injustice knowing you are God
- 3) Peace, that I not put ultimate



trust in myself, systems or people but in You Alone

4) Patience as I work through dif-

ficult tasks and deal with difficult people

- 5) Kindness as I treat each person that comes across my path
- Goodness as I seek the best solution, to glorify you and care for creation.
- 7) Gentleness as I respond in frustration
- Faithfulness to my calling and doing my work
- 9) Self-Control as I submit myself to the Holy Spirit.

### Eyes in a Darkened Room

### Little Miss Sunshine

Little Miss Sunshine, is really about a highly dysfunctional family, trying to bring their little daughter; Olive, to the Little Miss Sunshine Pageant and her dream of being crowned Little Miss Sunshine. If you come from a highly dysfunctional family, it will probably make you laugh in your tears.

Little Miss Sunshine is the story of the Hoovers, a fictional dysfunctional family from Albuquerque, New Mexico. The characters are introduced in the opening sequences; Sheryl Hoover (Toni Collette), a stressed and overworked mother of two, picks up her brother Frank (Steve Carell) at a hospital after the depressed, gay Proust scholar has recovered from a failed suicide attempt. Richard Hoover (Greg Kinnear) is a manic go-getter striving to sell his motivational nine-step technique to becoming a winner. Dwayne (Paul Dano), Sheryl's son, is an angst-ridden, avowedly mute, Nietzsche-reading teenager who has dedicated his life to joining the Air Force Academy in order to become a test pilot. Richard's father, Edwin (Alan Arkin), recently evicted from a retirement home for snorting heroin, is shown to have a strong bond with his sevenyear-old granddaughter Olive (Abigail Breslin), and coaches her to perform in a child beauty pageant. (From Wikipedia)

The movie tells in each character a story of the tension between an ideal self and a real self, of dreams and of broken ones. All these are inter-twined in a community trying to bring Olive to her dream pageant. It is also through community that some healing came as they begin to resolve the tension of their two realities.

As an after thought after watching the movie on an in-flight movie console, which I would otherwise not have watched, I begin I was somewhat disturbed by the ending which somehow seems to make one feel like something to the effect of, 'We are all special, special is good and good is average." This is again somewhat counter to our Christian worldview that we are made in the Image of God, woven in the womb of our mothers, each a unique creation. Diverse and united through Christ, royal priesthood, holy nation.



to question how Christians' hopes and dreams are shaped. Is it by the knowledge of a loving God who calls us into all of life through Him and through His gifting or more by the world's expectation and our selfish desires. I want to clarify that desires are not necessarily bad and may be God implanted passions for God given subject matters such as science, engineering, business etc which are honorable. I have thus qualified with the word 'selfish', the twisting of something good. Definitely not average.

Here are some discussion questions or for your thoughts.

- In what ways do you see dysfunctional patterns in your own family that is still with you?
- 2) What are your dreams and how are they shaped through Christ?
- 3) How far are you from that ideal self?
- 4) How can you pursue your God given dream and also find healing through community? By Timothy Liu

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### **Of the Heart and Mind**

#### **Purposeless Waiting**

During my last 3 weeks in reservist, I was extremely free when I was in-camp...waiting for things to do! There was no major exercise, just a two weeks operation which I was largely not involved. It was extremely bored. Those who stayed in-camp usually pass time by checking internet, playing computer games and Chinese chess for the whole day!!

I commented to my friend, "Some people serve Army with their blood and sweat; I serve Army simply with my presence."

The reservist experience reminded me that "purposeless waiting" can be extremely torturing!! No wonder people who have lost hope in life find life extremely torturing...these people simply purposelessly waiting" for things to happen (or to put it bluntly, they are purposelessly waiting" to perish and soon be forgotten by the world!). There is nothing in life to look forward to. Their lives are simply boring!

However, as Christians we are different. We are patiently waiting for our Messiah's return. This kind of waiting is not aimless/ purposeless. Our lives are not boring. Instead, We are purposefully waiting" for the glorious moment when Jesus returns. This waiting gives us hope and purpose for living. This waiting gives us joy to look forward to something much better in future. It also gives us a sense of urgency now to do God's will -- ie. to spread the good news so that we can help other hopeless people to find hope again, to live an abundant life, in and through daily work and tasks on earth, before His return.

If you have been overwhelmed by your work over the past few weeks, do take time to remember that you are "purposefully waiting" for something better. God who have started the good work in you will bring it to completion in due time. Hope this reminder will give you extra strength and energy to carry your work day after day.

By Raymond Cheung

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