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"HAVE A WONDERFUL DAY"

After having said, "have a wonderful day" to probably a thousand customers, the grocery store cashier's tone by the close of the day was disinterested and devoid of emotion. The phrase was merely perfunctory. While the sentiment verbalized should have brought

delight to those who heard it, it rang hollow. It is reminiscent of flight attendants as passengers file by in the deplaning process, "have a wonderful day". A number of thoughts come to mind to try and describe the lackluster way in which "wonderful" is communicated. Bored and routine jump to the forefront. Perhaps apathetic might also be a factor.

Wonderful is defined as being, "exciting wonder; marvelous; admirable; astonishing". Sentiment worthy of expressing to another. Now take a minute to think, doesn't it bring a sense of wonder when one awakens to having been engrafted into the household of God when baptized into Christ? "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit." (Ephesians 2:19-22) That is pretty amazing and wonderful isn't it?

It would seem that our lives should reflect a sense of wonder and a vibrancy in light of the relationship we have with God. Wonder when used as an adjective is defined as being "effective or efficient far beyond anything previously known or anticipated". Are there times when, perhaps our relationship with God, maybe not intentionally, is influenced

by a tiredness or boredom that has crept in. Not unlike the store cashier or the flight attendant as they intone, "have a wonderful day". Hollow.

As any one who does even a little bit of study

in the book of Job, clear sees that Job had great questions for God with respect to the suffering he was going through. Everything changed when God openly challenges Job. Spend some time reading over Job chapters thirty-seven through forty-two. Elihu in chapter thirty-seven exhorts Job to consider the "wonders" of God. Then God speaks to Job out of a whirlwind

as seen in chapter thirty-eight. Naturally Job is totally humbled by the wonder of God and the magnificence of His creation.

Job's attitude is fully on display when he finally states the following as seen in chapter fortytwo and verses two and three. "I Thou canst do all things, and that no purpose of Thine can be thwarted. Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge? Therefore I have declared that which I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know." Notice the usage of the word "wonderful", clearly it was not used in perfunctory fashion. It had verve and meaning to Job.

Every day for the child of God is wonderful. Psalms 19 celebrates the wonder and glory of His creation, both physically and spiritually. Day by day, individually we need to set aside time to really reflect on the wonder of it all. "See how great a love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called children of God; and such we are..." (1John 3:1)

"Oh, it is wonderful! It is marvelous and wonderful, What Jesus has done for this soul of mine! The half has never been told; Oh, it is wonderful!" (L.N. Morris) (wbe)

