

The Lakeside



Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday June 24, 2024 - James 1:21

21 Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

Read James 1 for meditation and inspiration.



WITHOUT GOD

Dear Lakesiders and friends,

"He summoned the twelve and began to send them out in pairs" (Mark 6:7).

Comedian, film, and television star Groucho Marx, famous for his quick wit, once said, "I'm not crazy about reality, but it's still the only place to get a decent meal."

A California realtor once persuaded the famed comedian to inspect a palatial ocean-front estate that was for sale. The realtor drove Groucho up the mile-long, beautifully landscaped approach. He escorted him through the house, the stables, the gardens, the kennels, demonstrating the many beautiful features of the dream palace by the sea. Groucho patiently plodded after

him, nodding sternly from time to time, apparently much impressed. Finally, he was ushered out on the flagstone terrace as the salesman waved proudly toward the broad expanse of the Pacific. "Now, what do you think?" he challenged. "I don't care for it," replied Groucho. "Take away the ocean, and now what have you got?"

The story becomes a parable on the actual value of our Christian discipleship. We may know the Bible from cover to cover. We may be well-informed in theology. We may know all the sacred hymns by heart. We may be regular Churchgoers. We may be generous with our time in Church activities and generous with our weekly offerings. We may be able to speak in tongues. But take away love, and what have we got? Nothing. And where do we find that love. Simple! In Jesus Christ our Lord who is the whole of the scriptures wrapped up in one person. Knowing Him, for in Him and Him alone, is what is required for salvation.

Remember how John said it in his Gospel, John 1:17-18 "The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known." John 3:16 & 17 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

In Jesus,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roger".

Roger