

Malcolm's Monday Musings : 6 April 2020

(i) Scripture.

'When I thought, "My foot is slipping", your steadfast love, O Lord, held me up.
When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul'.

Psalm 94. 18-19 (*New Revised Standard Version*)

(ii) Food for thought.

'The enemy' (Luke 10. 19)

There was nothing in Jesus that could give Satan a foothold (Matt. 4. 1-11; John 14. 30).

Satan sifts to get rid of *the wheat*. Luke 22. 31; *the Lord Jesus* fans to get rid of *the chaff*. Matt. 3. 12.

'Satan may build a hedge about us and *fence us in* and hinder our movements, but he cannot *roof us in* and prevent our looking up'.

(*Hudson Taylor's Choice Sayings*, compiled by D. E. Hoste, China Inland Mission, page 13.)

'While Committees waste their time over resolutions, do something. While Societies and Unions are making constitutions, let us win souls. Too often we discuss, and discuss, and discuss, while *Satan only laughs in his sleeve* ... Get to work and quit yourselves like men'.

(C. H. Spurgeon, *An All-Round Ministry*, page 55.)

The 'accuser' (Rev. 12. 10), cannot find anything in the files that will indict us (1 John 2. 1-2).

'When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within, upward I look, and see Him there, who made an end of all my sin'.

(Charitie L. Bancroft, Hymn: *'Before the throne of God above'*, 1863.)

'I may take the accuser of the brethren who comes to accuse me day and night, and I may bring him to that place [the cross of Jesus] and say, "This is the ground on which I am resting". I may my fierce accuser face, and tell him . . . what? Tell him I'm not so bad as he says? Tell him that he's got the wrong man; that I'm not the kind of dark blackened sinner that he tells me I am? Oh, no; I'll tell him, "You haven't discovered the half of it yet, but come with me to this place where the judgment of God has been poured out upon sin, which I have claimed, and to the ground on which I stand". There, "I may my fierce accuser face, and tell him Thou hast died".'

(E. J. Alexander, *The Cup of Bitterness, and the Cup of Blessing*. The last sentence is a quotation from John Newton's hymn, *'Approach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat'*.)

When Satan reminds you of *your past*, remind him of *his future* (Rev. 20. 10).

Detailed notes. [See the attached Word document 'Your adversary the devil'.](#)

(iii) Go on, smile.

A tough old cowboy once counselled his grandson that if he wanted to live a long life, the secret was to sprinkle a little gunpowder on his oatmeal every morning.

Throughout life his grandson did this conscientiously, and lived to the great age of 93. When he died, he left 14 children, 28 grandchildren, 35 great-grandchildren - and a fifteen-foot hole in the wall of the local crematorium.

Separately, see the attached 'A true love story' picture.

A TRUE LOVE STORY



This 89 year old woman was arrested for shop lifting.

When she went before the judge in Cincinnati he asked her, "What did you steal?" She replied, "A can of peaches."

The judge asked her why she had stolen the can of peaches and she replied that she was hungry. Then the judge asked her how many peaches were in the can. She replied 6.

The judge said, "Then I will give you 6 days in jail."

Before the judge could actually pronounce the punishment, the woman's husband spoke up and asked, the judge if he could say something on his wife's behalf. The judge said, "What is it?"

The husband said,
"She also stole a can of peas."