

Overcome Evil With Good

The contest between Stanton and Lincoln for the office of President began with Stanton treating Lincoln with contempt. He called Lincoln "a low cunning clown" and nicknamed him "the original gorilla."

"A person was a fool," Stanton claimed, "to wander about in Africa trying to capture a gorilla when he could find one so easily in Springfield, Illinois." However, Lincoln did not respond in kind. And, when Lincoln was elected president, he appointed Stanton as his war minister because he was the best man for the job. He treated Stanton with every courtesy. On the night when the assassin's bullet murdered Lincoln in the theater, in a little room where the President's body lay, there stood Stanton, looking down on the silent face of Lincoln in all its ruggedness. Stanton spoke through his tears, "There lies the greatest ruler of men the world has ever seen. There lies a man of steel and velvet." The patience of love had conquered in the end. Beloved, "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good" (Rom. 12:21).

"It is fit and becoming in all people, at all times, to acknowledge and revere the Supreme Government of God; to bow in humble submission to His chastisement; to confess and deplore their sins and transgressions in the full conviction that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; and to pray, with all fervency and contrition, for the pardon of their past offenses, and for a blessing upon their present and prospective action." (Abraham Lincoln, declaring a National Day of Prayer and Fasting following the Battle of Bull Run)

Horses or Donkeys?

Stephen Brown explains that when a group of thoroughbred horses face attack, they stand in a circle facing each other and, with their back legs, kick out at the enemy. Donkeys do just the opposite; they face the enemy and kick each other.

How often the church does just that... ignoring the real enemy while we attack fellow believers.

True Riches

One day a wealthy man took his son on a trip to the country with the firm purpose to show him how poor people can be. They spent a day and a night on the farm of a very poor family. When they got back home, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?"

"Very good Dad!"

"Did you see how poor people can be?" the father asked.

"Yes!"

"And what did you learn?"

The son answered, "I saw that we have a dog at home, and they have four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of the garden, but they have a creek that has no end. We have imported lamps in the garden, yet they have the stars. Our patio reaches to the front yard, and they have a whole horizon."

When the little boy was finishing, his father was speechless. His son added, "Thanks Dad for showing me how poor we are!" (Author Unknown)

Survival Kit for Daily Use

Toothpick
Rubber band
Band aid
Pencil
Eraser
Chewing gum
Mint
Candy Kiss
Tea Bag

Here's why:

Toothpick - to remind you to pick out the good qualities in others. Matt 7:1

Rubber band - to remind you to be flexible; things might not always go the way you want, but it will work out. Rom. 8:28

Band Aid - to remind you to heal hurt feelings, yours or someone else's. Col. 3:12-14

Pencil - to remind you to list your blessings every day. Eph. 1:3

Eraser - to remind you that everyone makes mistakes, and to forgive them. Gen. 50:15-21

Chewing gum - to remind you to stick with it and you can accomplish anything. Phil. 4:13

Mint - to remind you that you are worth a mint to your heavenly Father. John 3:16-17

Candy Kiss - to remind you that everyone needs a kiss or a hug every day. 1John 4:7

Tea Bag - to remind you to take time to relax daily and go over that list of God's blessings. 1Thes. 5:18 (Author Unknown)

A Bar of Iron

"Therefore He said: 'A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return. So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, 'Do business till I come.'" (Luke 19:12-13) "As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." (1 Pet. 4:10)

One of Ripley's "Believe It or Not" items pictures a plain bar of iron worth \$5. The same bar of iron if made into horse shoes would be worth \$50. If it were made into needles, it would be worth \$5,000. If it were made into balance springs for fine Swiss watches, it would be worth \$500,000. The raw material is not as important as how it's developed.

God has given each of us various talents, and their worth to Him is dependent on how we develop them.

A Moments Wisdom

No man's character is better than his word.

The heart of education is the education of the heart.

No smutty stories are told in heaven — or on the way to heaven.

The law of love is quite harmonious with the love of law.

The thing most needed in the American home today is the family.

Popularity comes from pleasing people, but greatness comes from pleasing God.

Some people read just enough to stay misinformed.

The best thing parents can spend on their children is time — not money.

Most of man's inventions have been time savers... then along came television.

Television is an appliance which changes children from irresistible forces into immovable objects.

The primary danger of the television screen lies not so much in the behavior it produces as the behavior it prevents... the talks, the games, the family activities, and the arguments through which much of the child's learning takes place and his character is formed.