THOUGHTS OF AUGUST, 2019

1. The Rev. Pat Conroy, chaplain of the U.S. House of Representatives, exorcised the House on July 19th in his day-opening prayer. You can be a blessed witness to the event by going online with his name. That day, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi was absent. Another member of the House, who is also a Pentecostal minister, was chairing in her place. Conroy and he, with others, pray together regularly. They had prayed before Conroy’s prayer that day, opening the House for God’s business. Lord, you have already started draining the swamp within your church; we pray that you drain the swamp in our government, our entertainment industry, our businesses, our educational system, etc. If this is only a time of refreshment before the trials of the end, thank and praise you, Lord, for your mercy in our time.
2. A Bible lesson: Our scripture is 2 Kings 22:1 🡪 23:3, which is repeated and enlarged in 2 Chronicles 34. The story is about Josiah, who became king of Judah at age 8. His father, King Amon, had been a bad father. In fact, for generations the kings and priesthood had been disobedient to God. Having a bad father, political leader and “church” did not appear to hinder Josiah, although it had a terrible effect on God’s people at-large. By age 16 Josiah began to “seek the God of his father [meaning ancestor] David,” who reigned about 12 kings previously, and began making many major changes in Israel’s religious practices, returning them to faithful standards. He cleared the air by publicly repudiated the historical religious leaders who had led them away from scriptural life and worship. That open, clear-cut break with sin and ambiguity helped the developing renewal very much, because the Holy Spirit puts His axe to the root of problems. He is not interested in improvements.

At age 18, King Josiah started cleaning things up in the temple [that means he took 10 years to get his feet under him, then he got serious]. He ordered some laymen, who had talent for returning the house of God to its original glory, to do their work. To finance the project, a collection was taken up and brought to the high priest. The money was then given to the laymen who were to actually do the repair work on God’s house. Restoration of worship of their Father in truth and spirit was underway.

The king considered those workmen to be so faithful that he ordered that no accounting was to be made of their use of the money. The previous king and the religious leaders had made a wreck of things, but the workplace laymen were trusted and prepared to clean and repair God’s house God’s way.

As a result of the laymen’s work, things were being cleaned up and out of God’s house. In the process, the high priest found a Bible, right there in the temple. [I think the workmen found it and placed it where the high priest could see it.] He sent it to the king, with the report that progress was being made with the repairs, and that [surprise!!] God’s word had been found. When King Josiah heard the words as read to him from the Bible, he humbled himself before God and repented of the sins of his nation and of their forefathers who had gotten them into their mess. The king quickly led the nation in repentance, revival and further reforms.

Every word and phrase of this story is loaded with currently-needed revelation and application to us. We need to study God’s word so His church, church leaders, and people can get back on track and stay on it. It goes this way: God’s word, enlightenment, conviction, repentance, desire, orderly change, and renewal of body and soul. Note also that the laymen who were to restore the house of God were of known righteous character, were trusted, were called, responded, and that they did not “put down” the priesthood, separate themselves, or usurp their authority. Even though the lay ministers had uncovered the word of God for the priest, the priests took it forward. Each did that to which the Lord had called them, and humbly trusted Him to do what He wanted in others.

1. There are many reasons why we should read and study God’s word, the Bible. The main reason, as noted from my own experience when the Lord grabbed me and immersed me into Him, is that the Bible is a series of love letters from the Lord to me, and to you. They are very personal, even intimate, almost as if no one should be reading them except me, and perhaps you. That central personal reason for reading the Bible can be broken down into many functional sub-reasons, such as to receive God’s wisdom, encouragement, correction, direction, training in righteousness, and much more.

A motivation for studying the Old Testament is that those Old Testament events were handcrafted by the Lord and recorded for believers in the New Testament days. That’s for us! Check it out in Romans 4:23(+); 15:4; 1 Cor. 9:9-10; 10:11; 2 Tim. 3:16. Those Old Testament saints went through those glorious and miserable events for our sakes! They did not know [and many of today’s saints still don’t know or appreciate it], but they lived-out in the natural that which now makes spiritual sense to us. They lived simply by faith that which we now live extravagantly by faith. Some had a limited look ahead into our times, into things that we have been granted a more full view of, with understanding and grace to match. But the faithful lived by that peek which they were granted, so we do the same with our clearer view.

“All” is ahead. The past was and the present is essential, but the BIG STUFF has now come within arm’s reach. Be patient, but run your race with expectancy. We are almost there.

1. Scripture has several different words for our one word, “love,” and there certainly is a vast difference between them. There is God’s love, human or friends love, and romantic love – to name three. This is about the first of the two and, because for years I have been reading material from Voice of the Martyrs, I will draw from Islam and Christianity to describe this Thought.

When a Muslim becomes a Christian, his family and community is commanded to rise up and kill him. When a Christian becomes a Muslim, his family and community is commanded to rise up and love him. I’ll not insult you by pointing out which is God’s love and which is human love.

1. How could it have happened?! Some in the church pit purity against power, truth against Spirit. It should be obvious from logic and scripture that one depends on the other; that neither can stand without the other; that they go together like love and marriage, not like oil and water or fire and paper. How could they have been separated into rival camps, and by whom came the separation? Because “the devil came to kill and destroy,” one of his major accomplishments has been to destroy the perfect unity and need for oneness of truth and Spirit. Our heavenly Father is seeking those who will worship Him in both, not in one or the other.

And a probably unneeded clarification: The devil cannot stop the Lord’s plans, but he can fake them and confuse people who are in or out of the church. 1) God’s truth is found in His word, the inerrant scriptures, the Bible – not in something like edicts or proclamations, unless they agree perfectly with scripture. 2) God’s Spirit is Himself, the Holy Spirit, who enlightens some of humanity. Although every human has a spirit from our physical birth, that spirit is not God’s Spirit. It is given by God so that we will be born alive physically. Thereafter, we must be born again by receiving God’s Spirit and live by that Spirit. Without the Holy Spirit replacing our human spirit we have only human spirituality and human insight, although an unhealthy dose of religiosity may make some think that we have more than we do.

In the 1960s and 1970s the Holy Spirit poured out His power in the Charismatic Renewal. He did miracles among us that were of biblical prominence, meaning like He did through Jesus and the apostles. Part of those “same things” was that we were drawn to and into the written word of God. We so lived and preached it that our church, family and personal souls and lifestyles were also biblical. Yes, that happened in this modern world! There was no thought of division between purity, holiness, biblicality, the miraculous, and spiritualities. There was no thought of Life being possible otherwise!

With the waning [not disappearance] of the Charismatic Renewal, the spiritual power group slid into sterile, showy spiritualities for their own sakes, and the biblical truth group retreated into sterile, weakened truths. There is some Life in both, but nothing like the Lord offers His church when in that time we will be glued together in His love. That’s God’s design for His church, and He will have it. Watch for those who have holy doctrine in humility together with gifts of the Spirit in humility. They are present and more are rising up.

1. Ponder this: “Most of that which we see and hear is an illusion. It is not the truth, but a lie, a distortion. Our eyes and ears cannot be trusted. We must have heavenly vision and heavenly hearing” – C. Brogden.

The whole world is living in an illusion, a false reality. Yes, we do have physical temporary reality, but the non-Christian world, plus many of God’s people, do not see beyond the obvious physical. That leaves them blind to and helpless in the reality. We are mostly blind to the process, even about God. I think we do that hoping to make life easier, which is part of the illusion. That being often the case, we could do with some disillusionment of the fake, and presentation of the truth. For many it is too late, but others have been prepared to hear and see the truth.

It can be said that Jesus had the ministry of disillusionment and passed the ministry on to us – Matt. 28:18-20. He told us to go into the world saying and doing the same things for which He got persecuted and killed, and that when we do, we will have the same good and bad results [He disillusioned us from the beginning – John 15:20]. If you accept that commission you might hear, “Blessed be the disillusioned and blessed be those who disillude the disillusioned!” If you can stand some disillusionment, read and receive the Sermon on the Mount, Luke 12, and any part of the gospels, receiving His words as would a disciple of Jesus Christ.

A disciple is willing to die to everything in his life, including his religious beliefs and practices. The things that are important to him are the things perceived of the Spirit, certainly not only that which he had learned from others from his youth. That principle is true of all disciplines, whether medicine, engineering, agriculture, homemaking, religion, etc. Somewhere along the course of life we become self-responsible. For a Christian, that self-responsibility before the Lord begins when we are born again, whether as a child or adult.

Jacob wrestled between sin and righteousness for years, but eventually got serious about trusting and obeying the Lord, and began wrestling with the Lord. That’s when things improved. The result was that his old way of walking [believing and living] was crippled [as it well should have been], and he walked thereafter in the way of God. He was disabled from walking his previous way through life. He became a disciple, not only a believer in God.

The Babylonian Empire is a mighty contrast to Jacob. Babylon wrestled with [actually, against] God, so the Lord opened His armory and brought out one of His snares – Jer. 50:24-25. It was over for Babylon. Whereas Jacob had successfully wrestled and at last lost [to his advantage], mighty Babylon [a picture of our human strength] wrestled often against God and at last lost [to Babylon’s disadvantage]. Disciples always have times of wrestling with the Lord, but eventually most lose [to our advantage]. Babylon is a picture of our flesh.

A tag-along Thought here. We all know the admonition found in both the Old Testament and New Testament that says if we will not humble ourselves the Lord will humble us, but if we will humble ourselves He will lift us up. Although that applies to each one of us, and to whatever groupings we are in, it also applies to groups like nations. If America, Mexico, Uganda, New Zealand, Ft. Leavenworth, Brazil, and Scotland will exalt ourselves [so as to displace God in the lives of its people and other nations] we will be humbled by Him. By “displacing God” I mean a government or any of its politicians trying to offer the people things and relationships that only the Lord can provide.

1. A study on integrity [being integrated]: Who established the everlasting covenant between God and Abraham – Gen. 17:1-2? Only God. The bilateral covenant was unilaterally established by God and maintained unilaterally by God. Why only by God? Because God wanted it kept, it had to be kept, and Abraham [being flesh] could not keep it. But, why did God want it kept? It was another step in His eternal plan for mankind, and for Himself.

It would be too shallow and narrow to think that His eternal plan was for “us,” although that has some truth on the human level for the sake of our human level thinking. What is God’s eternal plan for Himself? To create persons to be with Him, like Him, and in Him – integrated into One Person like He Himself [the Three in One] is already integrated into One Person. His plan is to perfectly integrate Himself and us into One; perfected into a unit – John 17:20-24.

He will have many more in Himself than the present Three, and the millions more of us who are in our beginning stage. We are in this Church Age and it does not yet appear what we are going to be, possessing God within as His Holy Spirit and beginning to bud into Jesus. But the process is long and there are several stages. There are at least two more ages to come – the Millennial Age and the Kingdom of God on earth when our Father and His throne in heaven comes down on a resurfaced earth and abides with us. Each of the three stages accomplishes more of His plan.

Here is the crux of this matter. That plan is costing God “everything.” Such is the nature of God’s love.

[[ An essential aside: Let’s look at God’s love in 1 Corinthians 13, which was God’s second-greatest act of revealing Himself in print – the written story of Jesus being His greatest. In 1 Corinthians 13 the Lord brings His perfect and divine love [by which He measures and defines Himself – 1 John 4:16] into the anteroom of simple, crude human thought. Despite the utter impossibility of accomplishing such a task [but God!], He provides us with the availability of as much of the Holy Spirit’s eternally increasing revelation as we will accept with each reading. ]]

How does God’s covenant with Abraham compare with God’s covenant with us? Our covenant of complete eternal and everlasting salvation for integration into God is also one-sided, for all the same reasons as in Abraham’s case.

What was God’s charge to Abraham as God kept the one-sided covenant? That Abraham 1) walk before God [not “follow” God]. Walking before God speaks of faith and boldness, knowing and showing that the invisible God was with him despite non-appearances. And 2) be blameless [meaning being complete, being integrated in soul and lifestyle, with self and with others].

Note: God’s charge did not make Abraham a co-establisher or co-maintainer of the covenant, but did give Abraham some responsibility for how God’s covenant would affect Abraham and others in this life and the next. That “some responsibility” had to do with trusting and obedience, although Abraham would be hampered and often fail due to his human frailty.

Integrity means to not be flakey, but having and showing stability within ourselves and with others. In our modern society we have integrated sound systems, integrated supply systems, integrated military systems, etc. Christians should also have integrated mental and spiritual systems a) as individuals, b) within and as the church, and 3) even with the world.

So, how about the requirement that we have integrity, be integrated? How might the following verses apply to our walk before the Lord in integrity: Prov. 3:6; Is. 30:21?

 How has “working out your salvation” been coming along – Phil. 2:12-13? That is the “becoming like Christ” process that we have been talking about. Is your process proceeding except for 1 or 2 persistent snags? Has the whispering of the Holy Spirit been adequate, or has He been sending around someone with a voice louder than His? Do you listen to Christ and the body of Christ? Is your soul-work a matter between you and the Lord, or does it include you and His in-the-flesh body?

1. Scripture tells us much about judgments. This Thought is about the various types of judgments, but not about the good [righteous, be sure to do it] and the bad [unrighteous, don’t do it] ways of judging.
2. Jesus judged sin once and for all on His cross. All of the punishment of the sins [past, present and future] of those who turn to Him are forgiven, never to be brought up again in regards to punishment – Heb. 9:27-28. We are permanently declared righteous. In that respect, we will never be more righteous.
3. So, what of our ongoing sins? Those must also be dealt with, but “only” for clearing the spiritual air that is clouded by them during and for the sake of our earth-walk – Heb. 12:all. This is our Father’s discipling hand on us so that our entrance and life in the hereafter will be with greater rewards, as Jesus taught.
4. Then there is our judging of ourselves. The Holy Spirit not only convicts us of committed sins but keeps us informed of our spiritual condition without our having to sin before our soul’s unhealthiness is revealed to us – 1 Cor. 11. We have sin in our fallen nature that can be dealt with without our having to first sin. He will shine His light on our dark places if we will walk with Him. Again, it is not necessary for us to sin in order to know our sinfulness. We sometimes deceive ourselves when we have not committed sins, by thinking we are above sinning, but that is deceptive thinking – 1 John 1:8.
5. The judgment seat of Christ will finally establish to believers His preeminence. The last bit of any contrary thinking will be done away with when we stand before His judgment seat. That can be compared to an exit interview from a job – there will be no punishments because all things that we did that deserved punishment were forgiven on His cross. We are judged there for evaluation of our works, for some of which we are not rewarded, and for some of which we are rewarded. It is not an appearance in regards to sin – Heb. 9:28; 1 Cor. 3:12-15; Jude 24.

We need to be busily about our judging, because the spiritual person judges all things – 1 Cor. 2:15.

1. This Thought will be a really big surprise to you: “We have a way of using the Lord as a means for making our earthly lives more comfortable.” That is 180\* opposite from the gospel. Jesus’ message was that as far as His coming to make us comfortable, He would be calling us to difficulties while keeping us full of peace. He came to bring a sword; including separation from friends and family.

He guaranteed us trials and tribulations if we would live the gospel. And, if we would start living the gospel, He would give us the earthly blessings needed to fulfill His calling on our lives. That sort of simplicity is not accepted by many in the church. It is too painful on our flesh. It shows that Jesus came to start a revolution, to bring division among people, not peace – Luke 12:49-53.

He had to repudiate that which was called His own religion, religious leaders and people. That is more than a simply uncomfortable project. It was a battle designed to bring order out of chaos. Think about it; He repudiated the established religion, required His followers to put spiritual things and people before their natural needs and desires, and showed them that faithfulness came before religiosity, and love before legalism.

Rebellious man had divided that which God had meant to keep united [people, classes, God and man], and had united that which God meant to keep divided [religiosity, sin, idols and man]. Indeed, the world was and is chaotic and He came to set things straight, beginning with tearing up the fake stuff, then restoring reality – Jer. 1:10.

1. In what sense or way were Adam and Eve made in God’s image? You have read Genesis chapters 1 and 2 many times. You may follow along in those verses.

When God created man [man and woman] He created them in His image, but not perfectly like Himself, yet. He will get that done in His time and in His wonderful ways in the ages to come. The Three-in-One perfect God created a two-in-one imperfect humanity. He created them in His likeness, which gave them rulership over creation.

He created in them aspects of His character. 1) They should be fruitful; to bring about and benefit from that which creation was purposed. God had His purposes for His creation, and humanity was to walk with Him in purposefulness. 2) He told them to keep, preserve, and cultivate the garden, which imparted another aspect of His character and ability – purposeful attentiveness, or watchmanship. 3) He told them to be blessed by [eating] the vegetation, which gave them the right to and joy of benefitting from their labors. 4) He told them to cultivate and keep the garden, which gave them ongoing responsibility and co-ministry with Him [or sub-creative ministry]. 5) He told them to not eat the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil which, if they obeyed Him, would keep them like God – keeping His own word, and holding fast to Himself [in the Trinity], and thereby living eternally instead of dying. Yes, Adam and Eve were created in God’s image and given a great start into His likeness.

1. It has been noticed, moderately well reported, and somewhat agreed upon that the number one problem of and in the church is not drugs, pornography, Islamic terror, fake news, or impending world calamity – but what has been called Low Impact, High Maintenance Believers [LIHMBs].

They have been caused by a growth-at-any-means mindset, which is contrary to disciple making. They are opposed to the “crude and unloving” preaching of taking up our crosses daily and following Jesus. Self-denial is a foreign concept to them. They hate preaching but dearly love short talks in the pulpit. They tend to follow after their own desires, and they take up a lot of time, effort and finances of the church. Gimmicks are effective with them – whatever attracted them is expected to attract more like them. When enough come into membership in the church, the whole church becomes them. It began with the leadership.

The answer to the problem is to repent, start living and preaching Jesus Christ, and allow the Holy Spirit to lead. The first thing that will happen is an exodus of the LIHMBs, followed by an influx of believers and to-be believers – if the church has rediscovered the deep truth that Jesus Christ is the most irresistible attraction of the universe.

1. Israel is not the only nation listed in the Bible that the Lord is wholeheartedly after, seeking in return their wholehearted worship and unity. He is after Egypt and Assyria [encompassing present day nations of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Cyprus, Libya, Turkey, Syria, Iraq, and Kurdistan]. Isaiah shows Egypt’s long, painful course over the millennia, much like Israel’s sufferings due to their wanderings away from God. The first 17 verses of Isaiah 19 show the Lord’s heavy chastisements, but beginning in verse 18 we see that God’s way will be successful. Egypt, Assyria, and Israel will be a joint blessing to the earth. They will be united in the Lord, worshipping Him, and having wonderful fellowship and worldwide ministry. What a God!
2. Esau and Jacob were twins. Esau was the first-born, so he was in line to automatically receive the elder son’s birthright. That meant he would inherit the headship of the family and either all of the property [land, animals, slaves, servants] or at least the largest portion if it was divided between the male children upon the death of Isaac, their father. In Genesis 25:27-34 Esau came in from the field and was famished. By unbreakable oath he traded his birthright to Jacob for some bread and lentil stew. It might be surprising to us in these modern, less ethical days that an oath given privately between two people would be so firmly held to, but it was.

The time came for another important event. As Father Isaac was blind and nearing death, Jacob tricked his father Isaac into giving him the father’s blessing. A father’s blessing was a prayer for God’s approval, such as “May God allow this to come to pass in your life.” The father’s blessing would be given to and remain with the son over whom it was spoken. Isaac spoke it over Jacob – Gen. 27:1-29. Thus, the second-born son owned the birthright and the father’s blessing. Jacob had well-earned the meaning of his name Jacob, being a supplanter and cheat.

One lesson for us is that Esau thought nothing of his future, only his “today.” Another lesson is that despite the obvious moral failures of both twins, the Lord was running things. As we are reminded in Romans 8:28, the Lord turns all things to good for those who love Him and are called according to His purposes. God had and has His special purposes for Jacob [Israel]. Those purposes are laid out in scripture, but notice that He blessed both boys [Heb. 11:20], but had and has higher purposes for Jacob: “Jacob I loved and Esau I hated” – Rom. 9:13.

1. This Thought is an attempt to clarify and make usable some difficult to understand scripture that for me is best described in “The Gospel of Job.” Job is good news when we see therein that the Lord is absolutely the Lord at all times in our lives, that His grace is adequate and sure, that the devil cannot touch us or ours without the Lord’s direct, planned and controlled permission for our and His benefit, and that our job is to simply trust and obey the Lord.

Jeremiah was countering a lying prophets’ words. Israel had drifted away from the Lord, and God was bringing the Babylonians to Israel for the purpose of taking God’s people into slavery for 70 years. The false prophets said God’s people were safe, that Babylon could not defeat them because they were God’s people. Did not they have God’s word on that?! Jeremiah said, “.. they prophesy a lie to you in order to remove you from your land; and I will drive you out and you will perish” – Jer. 27:10. The Lord was having those false prophets say the wrong thing in the matter at hand so He could punish/chastise His people, so they would return to and obey Him. They would not live by God’s good judgments, so they had to live [for a time] by His bad judgments. He gave them over to their ways and His prescribed consequences, under which they were not originally scheduled to live – Rom. 1:24-32.

He said the same thing in verses 14-15; “So do not listen to the words of the prophets who speak to you, saying, ‘You will not serve the king of Babylon’ for they prophesy a lie to you; for I have not sent them” declares the Lord, “but they prophesy falsely in My name, in order that I may drive you out and that you may perish, you and the prophets who prophesy to you.” He said, “They lie in order that I may return you to Me.” Wow! Always remember that the Lord chastises those whom He loves – Job 5:17-18; Prov. 3:11-12; Heb. 12:4-11.

The Lord is always with us, working His good will, to perfection. Our experiences and observations and interpretations can be deceptive, but learn and remember God’s word. The Bible is a history of sinful humanity’s efforts to ruin ourselves, and of our merciful God’s trying to save us from ourselves. A closer look at Isaiah 45:7 and Ezekiel 20:25, in which the Lord says He created evil, darkness and calamity [according to which translation you are reading], show that He is talking about the same way of dealing with His people, the church.

1. Almost as an add-on to Thought No, 14, have you noticed historically and today that the Lord has a way to remind His people [Jews and Christians] of His place in their lives? When we start to forget or minimize Him, the non-Jews/non-Christians will remind us to return to Him. Their usual method involves the use of discrimination, violence, and ultimately mass-murder. The Lord has His ways, and they work.
2. A few more thoughts on socialism, which always leads to poverty and totalitarianism – poverty because there is no end to the needs of the people when the civil government becomes their god, and totalitarianism because there are always those who will promise the people more until the people give up their liberty and self-responsibility in exchange for their promises. Such is the nature of our flesh.

The Venezuelan people continue to suffer under their socialistic, increasingly communistic, totalitarian government. They have mass starvation, murder of thousands of protesters, widespread poverty, and economic collapse. A significant part of the populace has left the country. In 2017 their population was 32 million; now 1.5 million have fled, mostly across the Táchira River into Colombia. That’s almost 5% of their people. The country has forsaken its humanity, its roots. You know the answer for them, and for us, as anarchism and apostacy continue engulfing us. Some near-answers:

1. A different form of government, such as a constitutional, free-enterprise republic. That is a good beginning, but not the answer.
2. Almost any form of government with property rights, free exchange principles, free pricing, and the like. Those are good economic drivers, but not yet the answer.
3. The guarantee of respect for human dignity, individual and group socio-economic development. Wonderful, but not yet the answer.
4. A high level of morality and statesmanship in leadership. Sounds good, but defined by, based on, and maintained by what?
5. You knew it. The answer is Jesus Christ. Stay busy, hold on, and keep looking up. We are almost there.
6. Atheists applied to be among those who prayed at the daily opening of the House of Representatives in Pennsylvania. The Speaker turned them down, on the basis that they were atheists so did not have a basis for praying. The atheists sued, claiming religious discrimination. Although a lower court decided for the atheists, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court upheld the Speaker of the House, on the basis of the long-standing definition of prayer – that prayer is to a power higher than humanity.

That is great on the basis of righteousness and of human logic. It is indicative of a return to the Lord and reason, and is part of the Lord “draining the swamp.” Moreover, it is notice that the Pennsylvania Supreme Court [in its 2-1 decision] could be ripe for a righteous and logical decision [if it has the opportunity] on same sex marriages. Like atheists going through the motions of praying is no prayer, homosexuals going through the motions of marriage is no marriage.

We may be in the beginning of a season of grace. Pray [because only the Lord can do it], unite [because Jesus prayed we would be united], speak up [because silence is assent, and rebellion is sin], and vote righteously [if you don’t know what that is, at least vote logically – Rom. 1:18-20]. A democratic society cannot be sustained without a shared commitment to certain moral truths [and their accurate definitions] about individuals and society.

1. If I asked you to give me the difference between people and things, you could give me a long list. One basic answer is that people were created to be loved, and things were created to be used. You can see that when people are used, and things are loved, there are problems. We don’t need to do that.

 “Vox audita perit littera scripta manet.” – “The heard voice perishes, but the written letter remains.” If it is important, “It is written.”