

“Face Palm Follies” (1)

“Be appalled, O heavens, at this; be shocked, be utterly desolate, declares the LORD.” (Jeremiah 2:12)

Fear Foible

Isaiah 7:1-2, 8:11-13 – ¹ “In the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, son of Uzziah, king of Judah, Rezin the king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah the king of Israel came up to Jerusalem to wage war against it, but could not yet mount an attack against it. ² When the house of David was told, ‘Syria is in league with Ephraim,’ the heart of Ahaz and the heart of his people shook as the trees of the forest shake before the wind...

¹¹ For the LORD spoke thus to me with his strong hand upon me, and warned me not to walk in the way of this people, saying: ¹² ‘Do not call conspiracy all that this people calls conspiracy, and do not fear what they fear, nor be in dread. ¹³ But the LORD of hosts, him you shall honor as holy. Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.’”

Isaiah 51:12-13 – ¹² “I, I am he who comforts you; who are you that you are afraid of man who dies, of the son of man who is made like grass, ¹³ and have forgotten the LORD, your Maker, who stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth, and you fear continually all the day because of the wrath of the oppressor, when he sets himself to destroy? And where is the wrath of the oppressor?”

Isaiah 41:10 – “Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”

Financial Failure

Matthew 26:14-16 – ¹⁴ “Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵ and said, ‘What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?’ And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶ And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.”

Matthew 27:3-5 – ³ “Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he changed his mind and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, ⁴ saying, ‘I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.’ They said, ‘What is that to us? See to it yourself.’ ⁵ And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself.”

Matthew 6:24 – “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

Proverbs 23:4-5 – ⁴ “Do not toil to acquire wealth; be discerning enough to desist. ⁵ When your eyes light on it, it is gone, for suddenly it sprouts wings, flying like an eagle toward heaven.”

Luke 16:9 – “And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.”