

# *Of Seeds and Flowers*

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## YOU ARE WHAT YOU SEEK



At a university Divinity School each year, (it is said) they had what was called "Baptist Day". It is a day when all the Baptists in the area are invited to the school. On this day each one is to bring a lunch to be eaten outdoors in a grassy picnic area. Every "Baptist Day" the school would invite one of the greatest minds to lecture in the theological center. It is said that one year they invited a famous anthropologist. The gentleman spoke for two and one-half hours proving that the story of the resurrection of Jesus was false. He quoted scholar after scholar and book after book. He concluded that since there was no such thing as the historical resurrection, the religious tradition of the church was groundless, emotional mumbo-jumbo, because it was based on a relationship with a risen Jesus, who, in fact, never rose from the dead in any literal sense. He then asked if there were any questions.

After about 30 seconds, a frail preacher with a head of short-cropped, woolly white hair stood up in the back of the auditorium. "Docta, I got one question," he said as all eyes turned toward him. He reached into his sack lunch and pulled out an apple and began eating it.

"Docta"... CRUNCH, MUNCH ... "My question is a simple question," CRUNCH, MUNCH ... "Now I ain't never read them books you read..." CRUNCH, MUNCH ... "and I can't recite the Scriptures in the original Greek..." CRUNCH, MUNCH ... "I don't know nothin' much about what you said." CRUNCH, MUNCH ... He finished the apple. "All I wanna know is: This apple I just ate - was it bitter or sweet?"



The speaker paused for a moment and answered in exemplary scholarly fashion: "I cannot possibly answer that question, for I haven't tasted your apple."

The white-haired preacher dropped the core of his apple into his crumpled paper bag, looked up at the Docta, and said calmly, "Neither have you tasted my Jesus." The 1,000 plus in attendance could not contain themselves. The auditorium erupted with applause and cheers. The eminent Doctor thanked his audience and promptly left the platform.

### THE LITTLE FISH



A real relationship with Jesus demands an encounter, not of the head but of the heart. It is like the story of the little fish.

"Excuse me," said the ocean fish. "You are older than I, so can you tell me where to find this thing called the ocean?"

*"The ocean," said the older fish, "is the thing you are swimming in right now."*

*"Oh this? But this is water. What I am looking for is the ocean," said the disappointed fish as he swam away to search elsewhere.*

A relationship with God/Jesus cannot be taught during a lecture at a university, its sweetness can only be tasted like the bite of an apple or felt like swimming in the ocean. A real relationship with God can't be thought but only loved.



*Those who  
believe  
never leave*

In Psalms 34:8 we read: "O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the person that trusts in him." If you have, rejoice in the knowledge of the resurrection that your faith in Him brings. Experience and contemplation makes the difference.



*"I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her commodious harbors and her ample rivers, and it was not there. I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her fertile fields and boundless forests, and it was not there. I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her rich mines and her vast world commerce, and it was not there. I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her public school system and her institutions of learning, and it was not there. I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her democratic Congress and her matchless Constitution, and it was not there. Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because she is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, she will cease to be great."*

*Attributed to Alexis de Tocqueville*

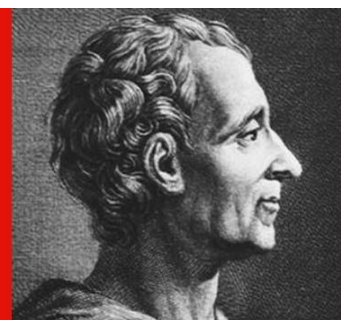


Robert. Cardinal Sarah in his book **"The Power of Silence"** pg. 153, writes wisely: "Often political leaders are sincerely persuaded that they are doing good. Alexander Solzhenitsyn made it perfectly clear that the Soviet leaders were convinced that they were leading the country toward an earthly paradise. Sekou Toure of Guinea, my country, because of a faulty formation of his conscience and an erroneous mind-set thought that he was bringing progress and prosperity.

*'Thanks to the aid of silent prayer, people become capable of describing life and world realities in all their raw TRUTH. It is necessary to affirm the principles of the Gospel but only after encountering God in silence. A person of God will legitimately speak in God's name only after encountering Him in the silence of the interior desert and conversing with Him face to face, as "a person speaks to his friend." Ex. 33:11 When you have **really encountered God**, it is impossible to compromise the Gospel and the precepts of divine revelation with the political and ideological positions of the world that rebels against the law of God and nature.'* - So speaks Cardinal Sarah. HOW MANY OF OUR LEADERS, CHURCH LEADERS, have really encountered God? Please, GIVE ME HOPE, and send me a letter that names ONE, just ONE. Still, my hope is real because it trusts ONLY in God. "Sanctify them in truth. Your WORD is TRUTH." Jesus, Last Supper.

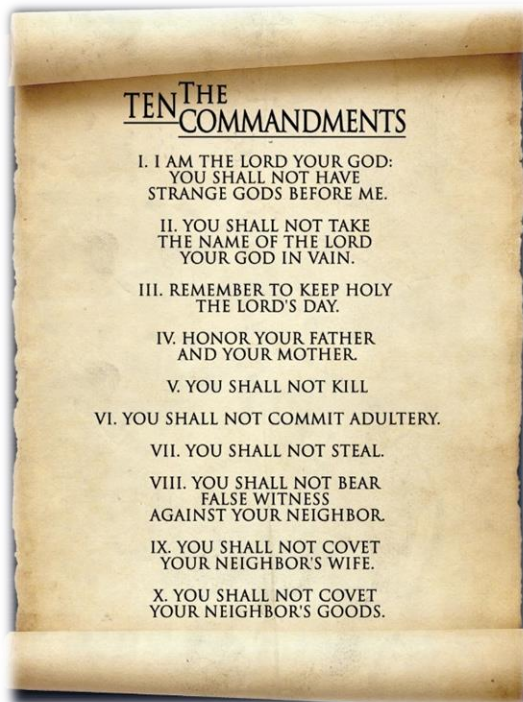
**"The less men  
think, the more  
they talk."**

MONTESQUIEU



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

They are on the Supreme Court Building in Washington, D.C.. They are on murals, bronze doors, a marble frieze, oak doors. Etc. They seem to be everywhere except the hearts of politicians.



*"The way we can be sure of our knowledge of Christ is to **keep his commandments**. The person who claims, "I have known him," without keeping his commandments, is a liar, in such a one there is **no truth**. But whoever keeps his word, truly has the love of God been made perfect in them."* 1 John 2.

**And maybe # 11: Thou shalt not VEX THY SPOUSE.** NO VEXING: Do nothing that will deliberately VEX your wife or husband or children or co-worker, etc.. Billy Graham's description of his marriage: **"Ruth, my wife, and I are delightfully incompatible."**

**IGNORANCE** is not to know something we are responsible to know - like the Ten Commandments. Like abortion.

**NESCIENCE** is not to know something we are not responsible to know - like the code of Canon Law.

**A marriage is as spiritually demanding as joining a Trappist Monastery.**

"Woe to those who call EVIL, GOOD AND GOOD, EVIL, who change darkness into light and light into darkness, who change bitter into sweet, and sweet into bitter! Woe to those who are wise in their own sight, and prudent in their own esteem." from Isaiah 5: 20-21 Not ME, fight with Isaiah! Lying has become an American virtue, a media virtue. WWJD or WWJS What would Jesus DO? Or what would Jesus SAY? Thou shalt not lie. Commandment # 8.

**Why waste time trying to discover the truth, when you can so easily create it?**

David Baldacci

*"In a free society, government reflects the soul of its people. If people want change at the top, they will have to live in different ways. Our major social problems are not the cause of our decadence. **THEY ARE A REFLECTION OF IT.**" - Cal Thomas*



*"Without God there can be no American form of government, nor an American way of life. Recognition of the Supreme Being is the first- and most basic-expression of Americanism."* - President Dwight D. Eisenhower

*"In matters of style swim with the current; **in matters of principle, stand like a rock.**" - Thomas Jefferson*

*"Our constitution was made only for a **moral and religious people**. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."* - John Adams, America's Second President



*"Educate and inform the whole mass of the people...they are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty."* - Thomas Jefferson



*"The greatest thing anyone can do for God and man is to pray. It is not the only thing, but it is the chief thing. The great people of Earth are the people who pray. I do not mean those who talk about prayer; nor those who say they believe in prayer; nor yet those who can explain about prayer; but I mean those people take time to pray."* - S. D. Gordon

*"A nation that is not ruled by God will be ruled by tyrants."* - William Penn



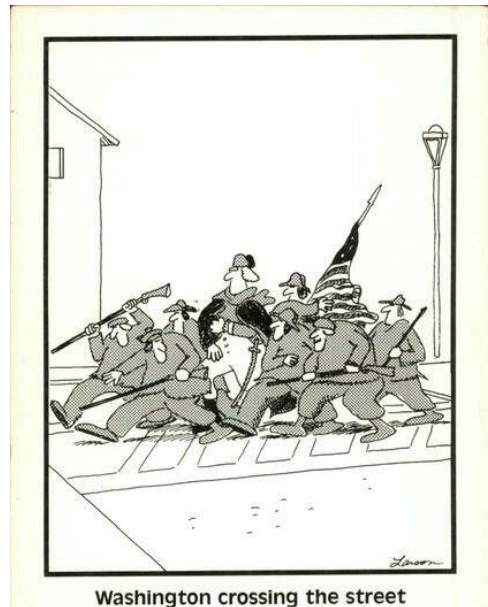
**A prayer from Peter Marshall, Chaplain, U.S. Senate.** We recognize, our Father, as George Washington who saw so clearly that *“no people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the Invisible Hand which conducts the affairs of men more than those of the United States. Every step by which they have advanced to the character of an independent nation seems to have been distinguished by some token of providential agency.”*

*Believing that the Hand that hath brought us thus far will not forsake us now, but if we are willing will lead us on into further inspiration and service to all mankind, we would join our prayers this day with those of Christian women all over the world in this day of prayer. With so many souls united in intercession for our own beloved country and for all mankind, may there come an outpouring of Thy Spirit into our hearts and minds, that we shall feel it, and all men may know it.*

*“Lift us rise above unrighteous anger and mistrust, into faith and hope and charity, by a simple and steadfast reliance on Thy sure will. We pray for some evidence in what is said and done here, that Thou has been permitted a vote, and that men yielded to Thee. In Jesus’ name.” Amen*



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Washington crossing the street



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