

THE SDB Woman

If God Should Go on Strike

—Author Unknown

(Contributed by Jerald S. DeGroff of Alfred Station, N.Y.)

How good it is that God above has never gone on strike,
Because He was not treated fair in things He didn't like.
If only once He'd given up and said, "That's it, I'm through!
I've had enough of those on Earth, so this is what I'll do.
I'll give my orders to the Sun—cut off the heat supply.
And to the Moon—give no more light, and run the oceans dry.
Then just to make things really tough and put the pressure on,
Turn off the vital oxygen till every breath is gone!"

You know, He would be justified, if fairness was the game,
For no one has been more abused or met with more disdain
Than God. And yet He carries on, supplying you and me
With all favors of His Grace, and everything for free.
Men say they want a better deal, and so on strike they go.
But what a deal we've given God to whom all things we owe.
We don't care whom we hurt to gain the things we like
But what a mess we'd all be in, if God should go on strike!

I worked at a care facility where one of the complaints of the employees was that they didn't feel appreciated. Of course, these same employees who complained the most were also the least appreciative of their co-workers or anything that administration did for them.

One year, the company was able to give a significant bonus to each employee. This was quite a surprise, since it had never happened before. As the bonuses were being handed out, each employee was told how happy the administration was to be able to do this. But it was a one-time deal, and they shouldn't expect it *next* year.

Each employee assured the administrator that they understood and were just happy to receive this unexpected gift.

The following year, after the anniversary of the bonuses had come and gone, a major complaint was that there had been no bonuses. Several employees were upset and felt slighted because they hadn't received what they believed they were entitled to.

Isn't it funny how we can take things for granted and then become upset if we don't receive them?

God is constantly blessing us in ways that we aren't even aware of, but we often focus on something that we feel is missing. Think how frustrating it must be for God to be doing what's best for us, and yet we become upset and dissatisfied because things aren't going as we think they should!

The more authority and responsibility one has in a job is usually proportional to its headache potential. People often become frustrated and dissatisfied with their jobs and quit.

God made us in His own image. In the Bible, we see where He shares many of the same feelings we do—anger, jealousy, sorrow, regret, as well as love, joy, mercy, and appreciation. Keeping this in mind, we need to be sure to thank Him and let Him know how much we appreciate all that He does for us. After all, His job is definitely the most important, and has the most authority and responsibility. If He were to quit, there's no replacement.

Solomon's Wisdom

Mary Clare of Merrillville, Ind., has some fun puzzles that represent common expressions. See if you can solve them by carefully noting the positions of the words and letters.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. HEAD
LO - - - - VE
HEELS | 2. DICE
DICE | 3. EGSG GESG
SEGG SGEG |
| 4. WEAR
LONG | 5. O
M.D.
B.A.
PH.D. | |



Answers located on back page.

Jerald S. DeGroff of Alfred Station, N.Y., was kind enough to send some material my way. Enjoy!!

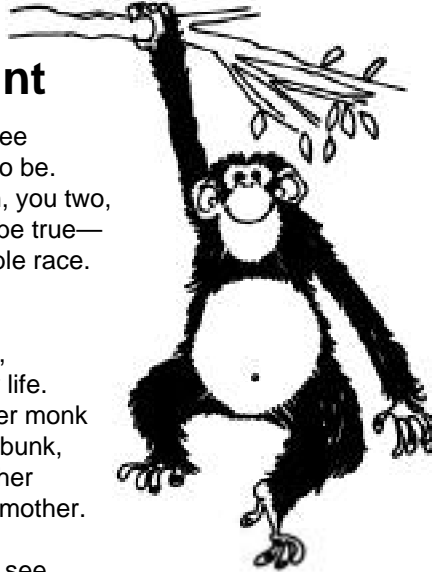
Monkey's Viewpoint

Three monkeys sat in a coconut tree
Discussing things as they're said to be.
Said one to the others, "Now listen, you two,
There's a certain rumor that can't be true—
That man descended from our noble race.
The very idea is a disgrace.

No monkey ever deserted his wife,
Starved her babies and ruined her life.
And you've never heard of a mother monk
To leave her babies with others to bunk,
Or pass them on from one to another
Till they scarcely know who is the mother.

And another thing you'll never see,
A monkey build a fence round a coconut tree
And let the coconuts go to waste,
Forbidding all other monkeys to taste.
Why, if I'd put a fence around the tree,
Starvation would force you to steal from me.

Here's another thing a monk won't do—
Go out at night and get in a "Stew,"
Or use a gun or club or knife
To take some other monkey's life.
Yes, man descended, the ornery cuss,
But brother, he didn't descend from us.
—Anon. Monk



Instead of asking for material, this time I would like to say how much I appreciate the contributions that have been sent my way. It's very exciting for the newsletter to be able to represent Seventh Day Baptists throughout the land. Many thanks to all of you.

For anyone else wanting to share, contributions can be sent to:

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Genesis 6:5-8—And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. And the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them." But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

Matthew 3:16-17—And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."



Potluck Picks

Elaine Miller's layered salad had me going back for seconds and asking for the recipe. It's wonderful!!

Layered Salad from Elaine Miller

1 pkg mixed greens/lettuce
1 red onion, sliced thin
1 10oz pkg frozen little peas (thawed)
1 can sliced water chestnuts (drained)

In a glass bowl, layer ingredients twice, beginning and ending with mixed greens/lettuce.

(Mix for Dressing)

1 pkg ranch dressing
1 cup mayonnaise
1 cup sour cream

Mix together and cover the top of salad with all of the dressing. Sprinkle 1/2 cup parmesan cheese on top of dressing. Cover and chill for at least 4 hours.

Solomon's Wisdom answers: 1. HEAD over HEADS in love; 2. Paradise; 3. Scrambled eggs; 4. Long underwear; 5. Three degrees below zero

May/June 2002

Carolyn Jacob, Editor