

“THINKABOUTIT” THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Friday; November 9, 2007

One of the neat things about nature is that it can't be influenced by power, money or fame. The natural world is the same for the pauper as it is for the prince. With this in mind, the Bible draws from the environment when it notes, "Does a fountain send out from the same opening both fresh and bitter water? Can a fig tree, my brethren, produce olives, or a vine produce figs? Neither can salt water produce fresh." (James 3:11-12), then James applies it to our language by noting that we cannot offer acceptable blessings to God and curses on mankind. Just as the natural world must be consistent, so will our spirit.

When people hear us talk they may be fooled by our conflicting words; but, God listens to the message that comes from our hearts. He will not accept praise spoken from the same lips that belittle our neighbors.

This weekend, as we stand before God to offer praise, let's ask ourselves if He'll really hear us or if our true nature will get in the way.

Think about it! For the Madison Avenue Church of Christ; this is Charlie Wharton.