

A special note to my family and loved ones on this 2023 Thanksgiving occasion... from Grandpa John

“The source of all understanding and wisdom; “The Book of Books.”

Daniel Botkin, a Messianic Minister from East Peoria, IL, has a Bimonthly publication called “Gates of Eden.” It is an excellent Bible teaching source and I highly recommend it. I have read it for 12 years or more. One past issue, Nov-Dec 2021, on page 18, has an article titled “The Book of Books.” Here is a short portion of it’s content:

“Here is an inspiring tribute to the Bible that I read when I visited the Mount of Olives Bible Center in Jerusalem in 1976. It was written by that famous philosopher Anonymous:

“The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of life, the doom of sinners, the happiness of believers. Read it to be wise; believe it to be safe; practice it to be holy. It gives light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler’s map, the soldier’s sword, the Christian’s chart. Here Paradise is restored, heaven is opened, and the gates of hell are described. Christ is the theme, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, a river of pleasure, and garden of flowers. It is given us in life, will be open in judgment, and remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, rewards the greatest labor, and condemns all who trifle with its sacred contents.”

Amazing words... I think all believers, who have journeyed the complicated pathway of life (81 years for me the 28th of this month) will appreciate these salient words... when I read them, I was reminded of the eternal truth of Yahweh’s [God’s] Word and its meaning to us, and how blessed we are to have such personal attention given us by our Creator Yahweh (making every day a “thanksgiving” moment) ... that always reminds me of John 3:16-17.

“16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.”

These things help me stay focused so I can be thankful this Thanksgivings, for my family, my blessed life, and my friends and fellow believers. Mostly, I am thankful that Yahweh has saved me, and reserved for me a place in His eternal Kingdom. But the other side of the coin of life, and its harsh reality, is more portentous... as there are many evils becoming more ominous, which we must not ignore.

Today’s news headlines are terribly tragic... numbing the mind and troubling the heart. For example, the Islamic terrorist attacks in Israel, and unspeakable atrocities against civilians [just because they are Jewish], over 1400 dead plus many more injured [in a single day]... The mounting death toll of Christians being murdered wholesale by Muslims in Nigeria alone (over 5,000 last year); random persons fatally slashed in unprovoked attacks while traveling on public transportation lines, and on city streets (yes here in America), over 100,000 deaths by fentanyl overdose this year. The relentless push to vaccinate children, with a deadly injection, for a fake sickness that has a 99% recovery rate in children. Unspeakable perversion being forced upon our children in public schools (claiming diversity learning). A WEF forecast of a 2024 banking crisis, increasing immigration riots all across Europe (just starting in America), Marxists plans to wreck the November 2024 election; probably the last one America will

ever have. Ukraine war powder keg and expanded conflict in the Middle East... Orchestrated divisions of ethnic, racial, and social groups, widening daily because of planned chaos by Marxist and elites who wish to wreck nationalism worldwide. I could list many more troubling issues, as each passing day compiles new events of the tragic works of fallen man, pushing a godless secular humanism philosophy... and hatred for the God of the Bible; one can read Matthew 24 and Luke 21 for a perfect picture of the last days world we inhabit... as we approach the times the Bible calls the Tribulation. This is no trivial matter; it should be serious warning signs for any person with common sense and fear of God.

Consider the above, and then consider the lyrics of the song:

“Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full into His wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim, in the light of His glory and grace.”

We surely must turn to the “Book of Books” for mind and heart stability... men do not, and will never have the solutions to the ravage of sin upon hearts of stone. Yahweh says in His “Book of Books,”

“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do *them*.”ezk 36:26-27 nkjv

I hope you will think clearly about this message. I have always tried to reflect upon America’s traditional and historic Thanksgiving heritage, on which I believe the sun of civilization is setting on our once great nation. It has a rich history, purposed in hope for mankind, as was so eloquently articulated in the Preamble to the US Constitution. I have been privileged to be among those who experienced its golden years, now decades behind us. Yes, I believe the sun is setting on one of the greatest stories ever told of progress and civilization. Tragically, the demise of the West in general and the USA in particular, is a sad tale indeed. Empire decay has always happened to nations that turn their back on God [Yahweh]. I pray you will seek the truth of life from the only source of real truth there ever was, or ever will be... The “Book of Books.” The Bible will guide you to see and find peace and hope in spite of what I see as the evil that is darkening these last days of man. The bright side is that Yeshua is to return soon and the brightness of his coming will destroy the darkness of evil, once and for all. 2 thes 2:8... Everything is temporary in this life. Eternal life comes only from Yeshua [Jesus].

Shalom [Peace be with you]... I love you, Grandpa John

To read an excellent article by Daniel Botkin: “A Time for Wheat, A Time for Tares.” see my website: https://www.rev1467.org/pdf-files/time_wheat-ares_botkin.pdf