

The Lakeside



Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday June 5, 2023 – II Corinthians 4: 17

17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all

Read II Corinthians 4:17 for meditation and inspiration.



GOD THE TRINITY, FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT

"I and the Father are one." (John 10:30)

"When the Spirit of Truth comes, He will guide you to into all Truth" (John 16:13).

Dear Lakesiders and friends,

Yesterday was Trinity Sunday. How do we understand the mystery called the Trinity? The idea is expressed in the Apostles' Creed: From "I believe in God the Father" "and in Jesus Christ His only Son" and "I believe in the Holy Ghost". There is Trinity. Some explain it as a three-sided pyramid that shows portions of its mass as it turns.

There once was a tribal elder in a remote corner of the earth who was sitting on a rock by a stream, eating an artichoke. Suddenly, as if a flash of lightning burst forth in his brain, he saw the truth, the wonder, and the glory of creation. He realized that he was born of God; he saw the marvelous perfection of the great plan of the universe, and he was filled with an overwhelming sense of peace and wholeness

right down to his very core. He returned to the village to tell of his wondrous insight, and before long, crowds of fellow tribesmen began to gather around him. They realized that he knew something great that they, too, yearned to know. Someone asked him, "How did you find this wonderful knowledge that makes your face so bright and your heart so full?"

"I'm not exactly sure," he admitted. "All I know is that while sitting on a rock by the stream, eating an artichoke, suddenly the Truth was revealed to me!" The next morning, the man awoke to find the village empty. Puzzled, he began to search for his brothers and sisters, but they were nowhere to be found. After hours of searching, he decided to rest for a while down by the stream. And there, to his amazement, he found the whole tribe, huddled together on that rock -- all eating artichokes!

The tribe, of course, was confusing the form of an experience for its essence. Since one member of the tribe had a profound religious experience while eating an artichoke, why not all of us? All we need to do to gain this same enlightenment is to eat artichokes. Or so they thought. But artichoke-eating is no guarantee for "there are different gifts and each is given according to their purpose." God reaches and uses people for the kingdom in different ways (maybe through an artichoke) but by the power of the Holy Spirit each is called, baptized, and commissioned into service in their own unique way.

God is the Creator Author; Jesus is the Saving Word, and the Holy Spirit is the Power Mover in the World. Together they are One God with in Three Persons. This TRINITY makes all that we will ever need, for everything of God in our lives.

In God's Magnificent Trinitarian Grace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roger".

Roger