

The Lakeside



Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday March 23, 2026 - Hosea 6: 1-2

1 “Come, let us return to the LORD. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds.

2 After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will restore us, that we may live in his presence.

Read Hosea 6 for meditation and inspiration.



SUPREME IMPORTANCE

Dear Lakesiders and Friends,

The concept known as the "specious present" was first introduced by the philosopher William James in his influential *Principles of Psychology* (1890). It is defined as the period of immediate consciousness -- the interval between what has occurred in the near past and what will happen in the immediate future. In other words, it is the "now" between the past and present. And we experience this present moment as a very brief duration. As I speak, we think of my last sentence as the past; what I am about to say is the future, and this fleeting moment, the present. We often hear that we should try to live more in the present, a broad concept we can all understand. But try to grasp what defines this present moment, and it takes work.

The Cathedral in Milan greets the visitor with some deep and self-examining philosophy. There are three inscriptions on the arches. So it is over the triple doorway of Milan Cathedral, beneath the rose wreath, the inscription reads: "All that pleases is but for a moment," complementing the other inscriptions: a cross with "All that troubles is but for a moment," and the central arch's "That only is important which is eternal," a profound message contrasting fleeting worldly experiences with lasting spiritual truth.

Once again Here are the three inscriptions in full:

Rose Wreath: "All that pleases is but for a moment".

Cross: "All that troubles us is but for a moment".

Central Arch: "That only is important which is eternal"

Pleasures are fleeting, troubles are momentary, and man who knows both is soon riding away on the pale horse. Everything in the earth shall bow to death and pass away. Nothing material can withstand the ravages of time. Even the earth itself "shall pass away with a great noise and the elements shall melt with fervent heat."

But God shall keep on living. He is from everlasting to everlasting. His Word shall never pass away. Though It has been maliciously sentenced to death by foolish man, still it remains indestructible. And the spirit of man lives on and on!

We remember the promises of God!

So, what are the major values? The answer is simple: Only the invisible things that defy time and answer not to death's call. They – and they only – can be considered the most important." ~ Leroy Brownlow

"The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon." Psalms 92:12

"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My Words will never pass away."
Matthew 24:35

"And this is life eternal, that they might know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, Whom Thou hast sent." John 17:3

In God's eternal love,



Roger