

TAYLOR COUNTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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Farewell Address

One of the most favorite farewell addresses, or the account of such which I read, was that of our first President, George Washington. It was given to those who were nearest and dearest to him. There was a room full of emotion at that setting, to the extent that one could wish he were there in attendance. We can each think of a time when we were departing from some place and people where we had served, and made some deep relationships with other people. We may not have given some departing words or an address, but we did experience a kind of “bitter-sweet” memory not easily forgotten. We knew it was time to ‘move on’, and wanting at the same time to ‘hold on’ to the spirit and connection we made with the people and purpose in being there. This article is my Final Address, for there has been a change that came about with the Western Recorder and Kentucky Baptist Convention, an administrative change of the warmest kind. It is brought about the means whereby there will be no further production of my Blog and articles from the Taylor County Baptist Association’s news or articles.

Granted, such results in less work and labor for me, and all the more, a loss of connection to the readers I have had the privilege of sharing what I felt were news-worthy stories, and issues of the day. These caused me to keep abreast of conditions and situations taking place in our area, country, and world, which were diverse and controversial at times, but needed to be addressed. It is always imperative that each of us continue to stay up-to-date on these things because they do affect us all. It is my hope that the Western Recorder continues to be one of our favorite sources of information, as individuals, Christ-followers, church

leaders, and an association and convention. There is a phrase known by many that states “no good deed goes unpunished.” For me, my Blogs and articles which I hope were helpful to many, its ending is not a punishment, but rather was an ‘unparalleled’ time in my life. Such were never done by me before or anywhere. I eagerly await whatever next phase awaits me in this journey of what some may call ‘journalism.’ I don’t consider myself a journalist, but one who had the privilege and honor of writing about contemporary issues and concerns that we face, of which, should not pass unknown or unheeded. God’s richest blessing be upon us all.

Bob Langlois, Association Mission Strategist, Taylor County Baptist Association

Brother Bob's Blog

Too Good to Be True

When something of that nature or presentation is given to us that sounds too good to be true what is our reaction? Are we skeptical of it, or do we hope it is genuine and real, or believe that there was an exaggeration about it? We hope inwardly that such is true. Sometimes it may be, other times it isn't. I have come across in recent months something that sounded good...almost too good to be true. I followed through on both of them, hoping there wasn't some kind of a “catch” or “hidden agenda” in them.

The first was about a new iPhone, “buy one and get the second one free.” The phones themselves were about \$600. Sounded like a good deal. I found out from the salesperson that I had to purchase a “third line” to get the deal. We already had two lines (my wife and I), and a third was unnecessary. The third line would cost about \$25.00 a month, and we would need to sign a twenty-four-month contract. That added up to \$600, the price of a new iPhone. I would be paying for that “line” I didn't need or would use. My conclusion: the offer was “too good to be true.” I turned down the offer.

The second encounter was a grocery item, “buy one and get the second one free.” I went to the store and found out the item cost twice as much as what it normally sold for, almost \$7.00, which I know I had previously purchased for approximately \$3.57. I decided to pass on this “too good to be true” offer. Let the buyer beware we are told!

How does this all relate to us in a “spiritual sense?” It is thusly: God is offering everyone something that sounds, appears to be, “too good to be true,”...and in reality, it is. The Scriptures tell us that “by grace we are saved, through faith, not of works, or of ourselves.” (Ephesians 2:8-9). Jesus did everything necessary for our salvation, to have eternal life in heaven with him. All we need to do is repent of our sins, and trust in him as Lord and Savior. This is just one of his many promises to us who place our lives in his hands for all things. We will never lose this salvation; (John 10:27) it's true! He will never leave us or forsake me; that too is true. We can be certain also, that the bible, the scriptures, the Word of God is true totally. In John 17:17 we read “thy word is truth” (spoken by Jesus himself). In the book of Proverbs 30:5, it says “every word of God is pure.” We can count on it being true and honest, and reliable. Too good to be true? Not at all. Let us all be thankful that it is so.

People have difficulty sometimes when an offer sounds “too good to be true.” Sadly, the same fall to a ‘SCAM,’ and are skeptical about the One who can be trusted explicitly and totally.

In this New Year 2019, let us be assured that some “too good to be true” offers, etc. will come our way. God can make known to us what is and what isn't. May he grant us the wisdom and will to know the one from the other.

